



Also: *Tommy TOMORROW* SPACE PLANETEER



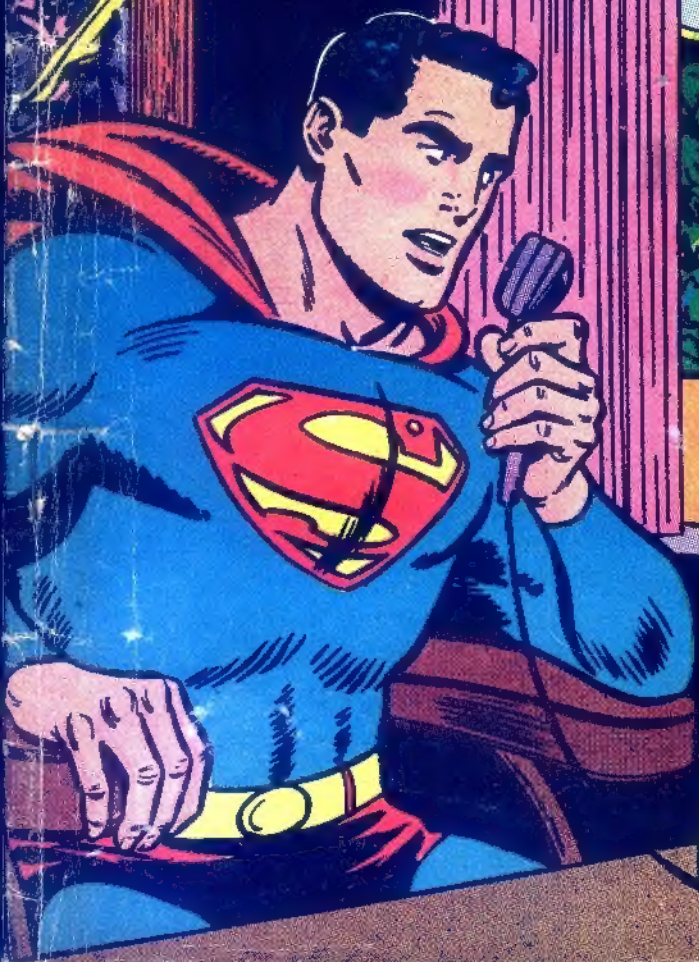
# ACTION COMICS

FEB.  
NO. 189

10c

In this issue:  
**"CLARK KENT'S  
NEW FATHER  
and MOTHER!"**

TO MA AND PA  
VANDEVIER:  
IN CASE I AM UNEXPECTEDLY  
CALLED AWAY, I FEEL IT IS  
ONLY FAIR THAT YOU KNOW  
THAT YOUR NEWLY ADOPTED  
SON, CLARK KENT, IS REALLY  
**SUPERMAN!**





**STOP**

**PAYING 89¢ EACH FOR HIT PARADE RECORDS!**  
WITH DEAN MARTIN AND OTHERS

# NEW "Closer Grooved" 78 R.P.M. RECORDS

The latest 18 HIT PARADE songs at the time you send your order for . . . **\$2.98**  
with Dean Martin, etc., or A complete set of the most popular Hill Billy Songs for . . . **ONLY 2** \$18.02  
or 12 Square Dance Songs and gift book "Square Dancing for Young and Old" for . . . **VALUE**



**JACK RUSSELL**  
of "Your Show Of Shows" on TV brings you Hit Parade Songs only 17¢ each.



**JEFF CLARK**  
of the "Lucky Strike Hit Parade" on TV brings you Lucky Songs for only 17¢ each.



**ARLENE JAMES**  
of Ed Sullivan's "Toast Of The Town" on TV brings you Hit Parade Tunes for 17¢ each.



**HAP WILLIAMS**  
brings you 18 Hill Billy songs at 17¢ each.



And 12 Square Dance songs plus book "Square Dancing For Young And Old" for \$2.98.

All selections by Hap Williams and the Sunshine Gang.

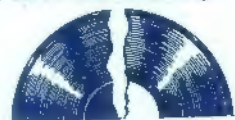
on break-resistant vinylite filled records.  
with Dean Martin and Others  
**NOW! 6 Complete Hits on Standard Speed Records**  
**18 Top of the HIT PARADE Smash Hits**

Starring Jack Russell of "Your Show Of Shows" on TV and Jeff Clark of the "Lucky Strike Hit Parade" and Arlene James of Ed Sullivan's "Toast Of The Town" and NBC-TV. Dean Martin of the Dean Martin-Jerry Lewis Team 3 complete Lucky Song Parade Hits on each side! You save \$13.04. You pay only 17¢ a song. Only \$2.98 for all 18! You hear 3 songs without having to change the record. (Available on 78 RPM or 45 RPM). **AMAZING NEW RECORDING PROCESS** puts grooves closer together. You get 10,000 inches of grooves on 1 ten inch record! You get 3 Hit Parade Tunes on each side. **YOU GET THE TOP HIT PARADE SONGS IN THE COUNTRY.** Songs voted most popular all over the nation this week and you don't get just one hit on one side of a record and an unknown song on the other—you get 3 complete hits on EACH side. You get 6 complete Hits on each 10 inch record. You don't pay 89¢ for each hit—or \$16.02 for 18 Hits—You pay only 17¢ a song—only \$2.98 for all 18 Hits—You save over \$13.00. (Available in 78 RPM and 45 RPM)

## \*18 HILL BILLY SMASH HITS

by Hap Williams

The ones voted most popular by disc jockies and juke box sales throughout the nation — 3 complete Hill Billy Hits on each side — Play on all 78 RPM record players. ☐ 45 RPM



New Improved Record (Closer Grooved) Old Style Record (Grooved Too Far Apart)

**NOTE THE OLD STYLE RECORD** has only one song on each side. The New Improved record has closer grooves with three complete songs on each side. The closer grooved record puts over 10,000 inches of grooves on each side. You get 3 complete hits on each side.

**THIS INTRODUCTORY OFFER** gives you the new and improved 6 songs to a record. You get 18 Hill Billy songs that are sweeping the country and grooved three on each side of standard 10 inch records. Play on all standard record players or phonographs. Rush your order now for all 18 for a saving of \$13.04. Get all 18 of the **LATEST most Popular Hill Billy Songs!** All 18 Hill Billy Hits for only \$2.98. Rush Your order Now! Play on all 78 RPM record players, or 45 RPM.

**\*12 SQUARE DANCE SONGS AND GIFT BOOK "SQUARE DANCING FOR YOUNG AND OLD".** The 12 square dances are recorded on two standard speed records—3 on a side. Play on all standard speed 78 RPM record players. Six songs have calls you hear the calls. The other six are top square dance music. 12 square dances on two records. Play on all 78 RPM speed 10 inch records. The "Square Dancing For Young And Old" book is easy to follow — simplified lessons, with illustrations. You'll get more than \$8.00 worth of fun from the book alone. You get the 12 square dances plus the square dancing book for only \$2.98. For 78 RPM or 45 RPM.

☐ **You Get 18 Hit Parade Smash Hits for Only \$2.98**  
By Dean Martin and Others

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. EBB TIDE             | 11. SONG FROM MOULIN ROUGE    |
| 2. DRAGNET              | 12. MANY TIMES                |
| 3. VAYA CON DIOS        | 13. WALKING MY BABY BACK HOME |
| 4. CRYING IN THE CHAPEL | 14. BUTTERFLIES               |
| 5. OH!                  | 15. GOD BLESS US ALL          |
| 6. C'EST SI BON         | 16. STORY OF THREE LOVES      |
| 7. P.S. I LOVE YOU      | 17. NO OTHER LOVE             |
| 8. YOU, YOU, YOU        | 18. MY LOVE, MY LOVE          |
| 9. WITH THESE HANDS     |                               |
| 10. EH! CUMPAR!         |                               |

☐ **You Get 18 Hill Billy Smash Hits for Only \$2.98**

- |                                        |                                  |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. HEY, JOE!                           | 10. CARIBBEAN                    |
| 2. GAMBLER'S GUITAR                    | 11. IT'S BEEN SO LONG            |
| 3. CRYING IN THE CHAPEL                | 12. TENNESSEE WIG-WALK           |
| 4. MAMA, COME GET YOUR BABY BOY        | 13. HOW'S THE WORLD TREATING YOU |
| 5. A DEAR JOHN LETTER                  | 14. RUB-ADUB-DUB                 |
| 6. LIGHTHOUSE                          | 15. PRIVATE PROPERTY             |
| 7. I FORGOT MORE THAN YOU'LL EVER KNOW | 16. YESTERDAY'S GIRL             |
| 8. IS ZAT YOU, MYRTLE?                 | 17. FORGIVE ME JOHN              |
| 9. I WON'T BE HOME NO MORE             | 18. DEAR JOHN                    |

☐ **You Get 12 Square Dance Songs and Gift Book "Square Dancing" for \$2.98**

- |                    |                         |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. MOCKIN' BIRD    | 7. CHICKEN REEL         |
| 2. FLOP-EARED MULE | 8. GOLDEN SLIPPER       |
| 3. BUFFALO GAL     | 9. RED RIVER VALLEY     |
| 4. OH, SUSANNA     | 10. ARKANSAS TRAVELER   |
| 5. SOLDIER'S JOY   | 11. LITTLE BROWN JUG    |
| 6. DEVIL'S DREAM   | 12. TURKEY IN THE STRAW |

**PLUS BOOK:**

"Square Dancing for Young And Old"

**Mail No Risk Coupon Today!**

**LUCKY SONG PARADE CO. DEPT. 158**  
318 MARKET ST., NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

RUSH records indicated below. I enclose \$2.98 cash, check, or money order for each set ordered or \$8.00 for all 3 sets. My money will be refunded if I return the records, but I may keep one record of each set for my trouble.

- ☐ 18 HIT PARADE SONGS—\$2.98 ☐ 78 RPM ☐ 45 RPM
- ☐ 18 HILL BILLY SONGS—\$2.98 ☐ 78 RPM ☐ 45 RPM
- ☐ 12 SQUARE DANCE SONGS plus Book on "Square Dancing For Young And Old"—\$2.98 ☐ 78 RPM ☐ 45 RPM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_



# SUPERMAN

**T**HE FACT THAT CLARK KENT, NEWSPAPER REPORTER, AND SUPERMAN, THE MIGHTY MAN OF STEEL, ARE ONE AND THE SAME PERSON, IS THE MOST CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET IN THE WORLD! BUT A MAN CAN'T CONCEAL SUCH SECRETS FROM HIS OWN PARENTS! BUT IT HAPPENS WHEN, THROUGH STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES, AN ELDERLY COUPLE ADOPTS SUPERMAN, AND THE MAN OF STEEL REVEALS HIS IDENTITY TO ---

## CLARK KENT'S NEW MOTHER AND FATHER!

OUR NEW SON  
SHOULD BE HOME  
BY NOW--- WONDER  
WHERE HE IS?



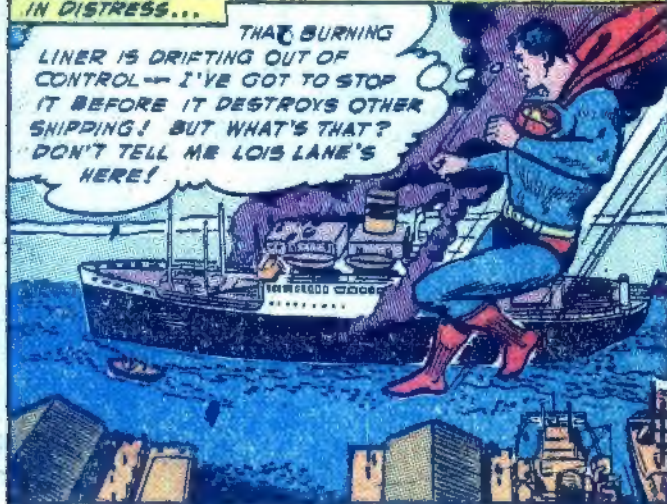
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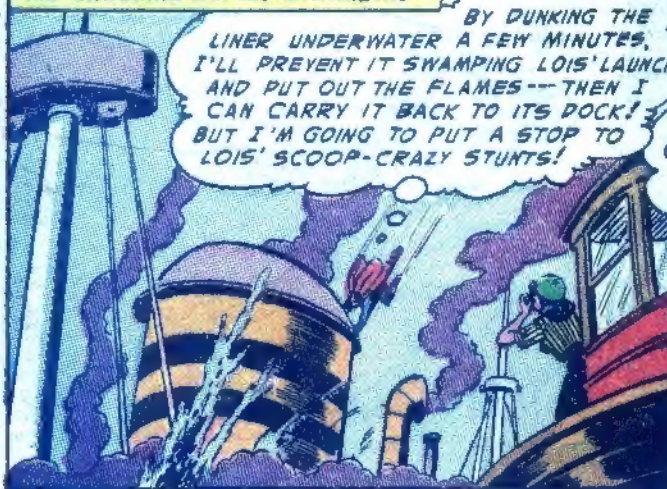
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ONE AFTERNOON IN THE METROPOLIS HARBOR, AS SUPERMAN FLASHES TO THE RESCUE OF A VESSEL IN DISTRESS...



GRASPING THE FLAMING LINER JUST BEFORE IT CAN CRUSH THE LITTLE LAUNCH, THE MAN OF STEEL USES HIS AWESOME SUPER-STRENGTH!



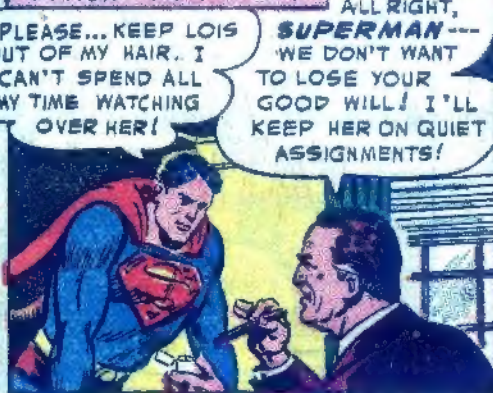
PRESENTLY, ON THE SECLUDED ROOF, SUPERMAN ASSUMES HIS EVERYDAY IDENTITY OF MILD-MANNERED REPORTER CLARK KENT!



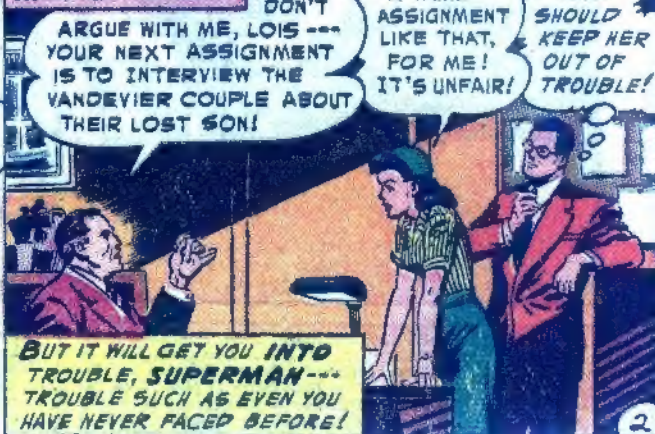
RIGHT, SUPERMAN! LOIS LANE, AUDACIOUS GIRL REPORTER OF THE DAILY PLANET, IS AGAIN AFTER A HOT SCOOP!



SOON, AFTER RETURNING THE LINER TO DOCK, A VISIT TO THE DAILY PLANET OFFICE FOR A TALK WITH EDITOR PERRY WHITE!



MINUTES LATER...





AS LOIS INTERVIEWS THE GRIEF-STRIKEN MR. AND MRS. JOHN VANDEVIER AT THEIR COUNTRY ESTATE...

YES, OUR SON GUY WAS A NAVAL PILOT--- HE WAS LOST FLYING HOME FROM KOREA!

HERE'S HIS PICTURE!

WHY, IT'S AMAZING! YOUR SON WAS ALMOST A DOUBLE OF MY FELLOW-REPORTER, CLARK KENT!

IF HE LOOKS LIKE OUR LOST SON, I'D VERY MUCH LIKE TO MEET HIM! COULD YOU ASK HIM TO COME OUT?



AND WHEN CLARK ANSWERS LOIS' CRYPTIC PHONE CALL...

WHY---WHY, HE IS EXACTLY LIKE OUR SON GUY!

IT'S LIKE OUR BOY COME BACK TO US AGAIN! I'M...GOING TO FAINT!

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, LOIS?



AS A DOCTOR IS SUMMONED FOR A MOTHER OVERPOWERED BY EMOTION, LOIS EXPLAINS! AND THEN AN AMAZING PROPOSAL...

MR. KENT, MISS LANE SAID YOU WERE AN ORPHAN! AND YOU RESEMBLE OUR LOST SON SO MUCH THAT MY WIFE AND I WOULD LIKE TO ADOPT YOU!

OH, NO--- I'M TERRIBLY SORRY ABOUT YOUR LOSS, BUT I COULDN'T DO THAT!

HOW COULD I, WHEN I'M SECRETLY SUPERMAN?



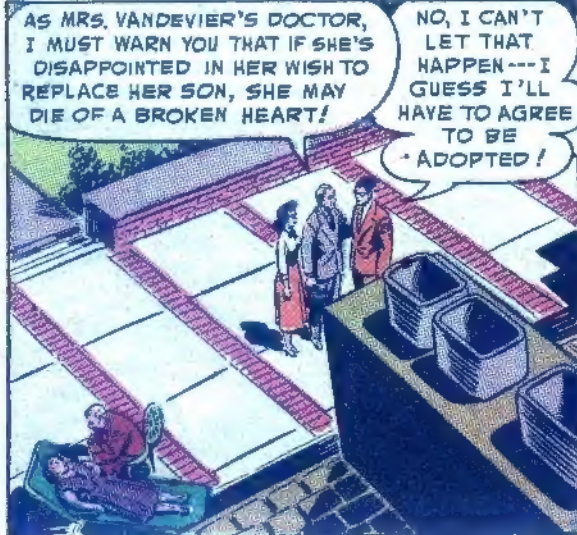
AS MRS. VANDEVIER'S DOCTOR, I MUST WARN YOU THAT IF SHE'S DISAPPOINTED IN HER WISH TO REPLACE HER SON, SHE MAY DIE OF A BROKEN HEART!

NO, I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN---I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO AGREE TO BE ADOPTED!

MY BOY! WE'LL HAVE THE ADOPTION PAPERS DRAWN UP AT ONCE!

I'LL TRY TO BE A REAL SON TO YOU!

I HOPE THIS DOESN'T INVOLVE TELLING THEM I'M SUPERMAN!





AND SO, IN A SHORT TIME, THE ADOPTION BECOMES LEGAL!

SO NOW YOU'RE CLARK KENT VANDEVIER!

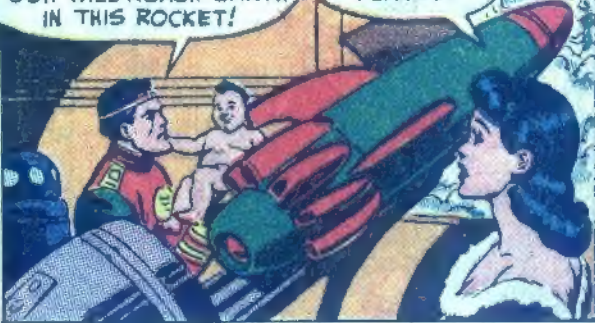
THEY DON'T KNOW YET THAT I WAS ORPHANED TWICE--- THAT THEY'RE MY THIRD SET OF PARENTS!



"MY FIRST, REAL PARENTS WERE JOR-EL AND HIS WIFE OF THE PLANET KRYPTON WHERE I WAS BORN--- THE PARENTS WHO KNEW ME ONLY AS A BABY!"

EVEN THOUGH KRYPTON IS PERISHING, OUR INFANT SON WILL REACH EARTH IN THIS ROCKET!

HE'LL GROW UP TO BE A SUPER-MAN, ON THAT PLANET!



\* THEN THERE WERE JONATHAN AND MARTHE KENT, WHO FOUND ME WHEN I REACHED EARTH AND WHO BECAME MY FOSTER-PARENTS!

THAT ROCKET THE BABY WAS IN --- IT'S BURNING UP, AS THOUGH ITS METAL IS ALIEN TO OUR ATMOSPHERE!

WHAT A CUTE BABY! WE'LL KEEP HIM FOR OUR OWN AND CALL HIM CLARK!



AND NOW MY THIRD PARENTS--- I'LL BE A GOOD SON TO THEM, BUT I CAN NEVER FORGET MY OTHER FOLKS!

WE'RE TAKING YOU HOME NOW, CLARK--- AND FOR THIS HAPPY OCCASION I WANT YOUR FELLOW REPORTERS, MISS LANE AND JIMMY OLSEN, TO COME WITH US!

YES, FOR IT WAS LOIS WHO FOUND OUR NEW SON FOR US!



SOON, A FOND FATHER SHOWS CLARK KENT VANDEVIER AROUND HIS NEW, LUXURIOUS COUNTRY HOME!

WOW, WHAT A RITZY HOME FOR A REPORTER! I WISH I HAD WEALTHY PARENTS, CLARK!

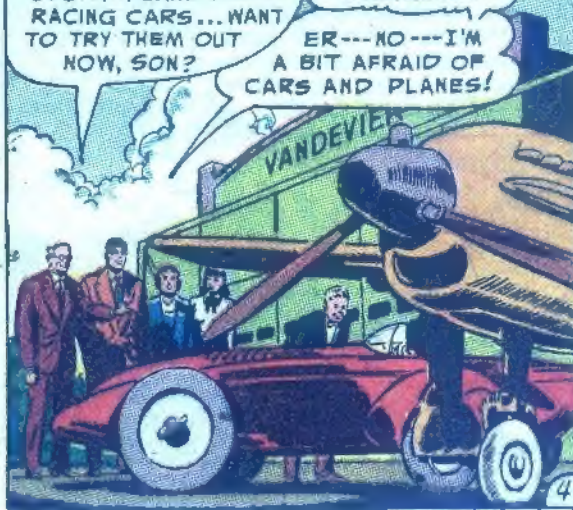
I DON'T--- I'M AFRAID, THAT BY LIVING WITH THEM, THEY'LL STUMBLE ON TO MY SUPERMAN IDENTITY!



THESE WERE MY SON'S HIGH-POWERED SPORT PLANE AND RACING CARS... WANT TO TRY THEM OUT NOW, SON?

I HAVE TO KEEP UP MY "TIMID CLARK KENT" CHARACTER!

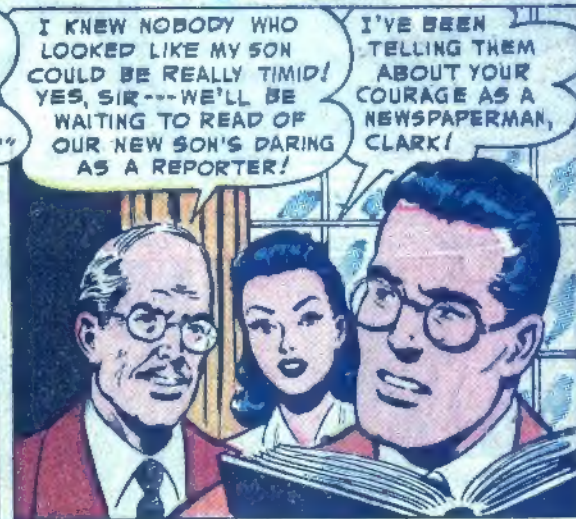
ER---NO---I'M A BIT AFRAID OF CARS AND PLANES!







# ACTION COMICS







# ACTION COMICS



**SO, WITHIN MINUTES, LOIS "LUCKILY" MEETS THE MAN OF STEEL!**

SO YOU SEE, I CAN'T LET THOSE NICE VANDEVIER'S LEARN HOW TIMID THEIR NEW SON IS! YOU'LL HAVE TO PROTECT CLARK ON HIS DANGEROUS ASSIGNMENTS!

CLARK KENT, THE "RECKLESS REPORTER"--- THAT'S A LAUGH! WHY SHOULD I BUILD HIM UP?

FOR THE SAKE OF THOSE FINE PEOPLE! AND IF YOU DON'T, I'LL TAKE ON THOSE RISKY ASSIGNMENTS SO YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR ME!

ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT!

UNTIL I THINK OF A WAY TO KEEP YOU OUT OF TROUBLE!

**SOON, EDITOR PERRY WHITE GETS THE SURPRISE OF THE YEAR!**

CLARK, YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO COVER THAT BIG CLIFF-BLAST FROM CLOSE BY? DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS?

SO WHAT? I INSIST ON BEING THE CLOSEST REPORTER TO THE BLAST!

**A FEW HOURS LATER, NEAR THE GREAT CLIFF THAT IS TO BE BLASTED FOR ITS VALUABLE ORES!**

YOU'RE DANGEROUSLY CLOSE, MR. KENT--- THAT WHOLE CLIFF IS GOING UP!

RISKS ARE NOTHING TO ME WHEN I'M AFTER A STORY!

AND WHEN YOU KNOW SUPERMAN WILL BE AROUND TO PROTECT YOU!

**AND AS A THUNDEROUS DETONATION RENDS TONS OF ROCK...**

I HAD TO BE HERE ANYWAY, TO MAKE SURE NO FLYING ROCKS HARM ANYONE! THERE GOES THE BLAST... BUT I'M QUICKER THAN THE EXPLOSION!

IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT TO KNOCK BACK THE ROCKS THAT WOULD FLY TOO FAR! THEN BACK TO THE GROUND, AT A SPEED NOBODY CAN SEE, TO BECOME CLARK KENT AGAIN!





# ACTION COMICS



**A FEW MINUTES LATER...**

I GOT A SWELL VIEW OF THE BIG BLAST FOR MY STORY, AND DIDN'T GET HURT!

NO, BECAUSE **SUPERMAN** WAS HERE! OUR PHOTOGRAPHER SNAPPED HIM, BATTING THE ROCKS AWAY! BUT WE WON'T GIVE YOU AWAY BY PRINTING THAT PICTURE!



**AND AT THE PLANET OFFICE, THE "RECKLESS REPORTER" CONTINUES TO PLAY HIS PART!**

WELL, IF YOU REALLY WANT ANOTHER DANGEROUS ASSIGNMENT, SOME CRAZY INVENTOR IS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO RIDE IN HIS NEW STRATOSPHERE ROCKET DURING ITS TEST!

**SUPERMAN** SHOULD SAFEGUARD THAT TEST!

THAT'S MY KIND OF STORY! I'LL RIDE THAT ROCKET!



CLARK REALLY HAS NERVE, AFTER ALL!

LOOK AT THE BIG PHONY STRUTTING AROUND AS THOUGH HE'S REALLY BRAVE! ANYWAY, WE'LL GET SOME PICTURES OF THAT TEST FOR HIS STORY!

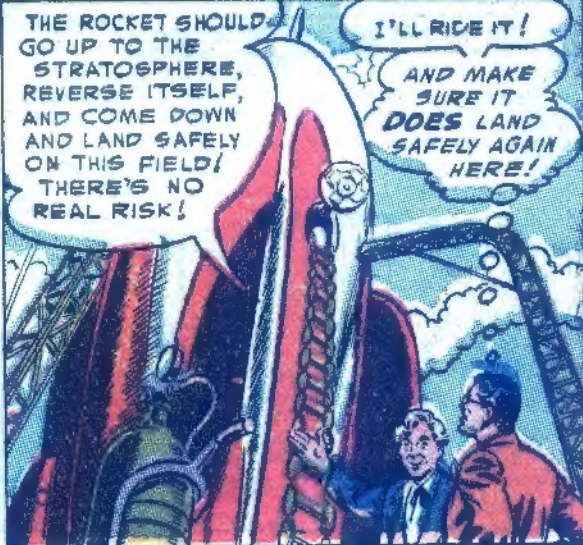


**THE ECCENTRIC INVENTOR WELCOMES A PASSENGER FOR HIS ROCKET TEST-FLIGHT!**

THE ROCKET SHOULD GO UP TO THE STRATOSPHERE, REVERSE ITSELF, AND COME DOWN AND LAND SAFELY ON THIS FIELD! THERE'S NO REAL RISK!

I'LL RIDE IT!

AND MAKE SURE IT DOES LAND SAFELY AGAIN HERE!

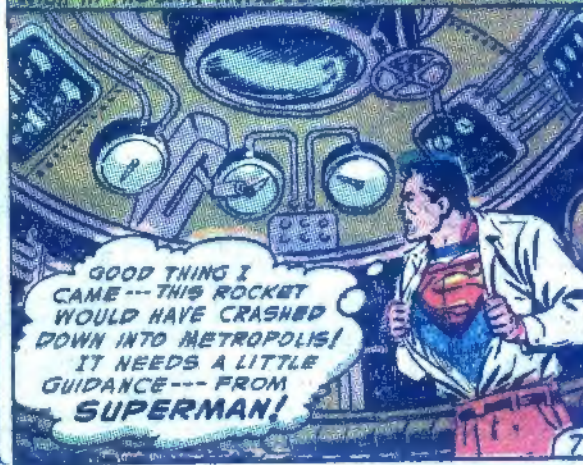


THERE GOES CLARK--- I DON'T SEE **SUPERMAN**, BUT HE MUST BE AROUND SOMEWHERE OR CLARK WOULD NEVER HAVE DARED!



**HIGH IN THE SKY, VITAL CONTROLS GO WRONG!**

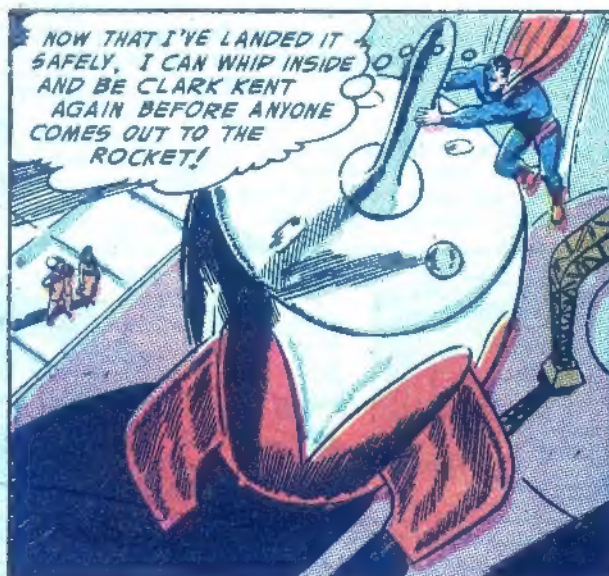
GOOD THING I CAME--- THIS ROCKET WOULD HAVE CRASHED DOWN INTO METROPOLIS! IT NEEDS A LITTLE GUIDANCE--- FROM **SUPERMAN!**







# ACTION COMICS

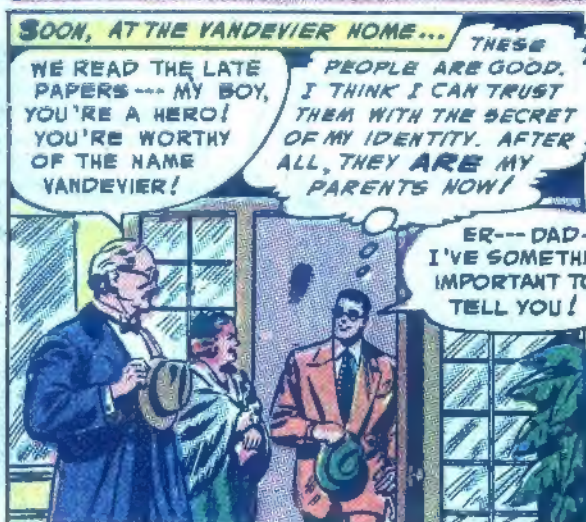


NOW THAT I'VE LANDED IT SAFELY, I CAN WHIP INSIDE AND BE CLARK KENT AGAIN BEFORE ANYONE COMES OUT TO THE ROCKET!



I GOT A SWELL STORY! I'LL TAKE IT TO PERRY--- AND THEN I MUST GET HOME TO MY PARENTS!

WHAT A FAKER! I'M SURE OUR PHOTOS WILL SHOW YOU HAD **SUPERMAN** PROTECTING YOU, BUT FOR YOUR PARENTS' SAKE, I'LL KEEP THEM OUT OF PRINT!



SOON, AT THE VANDEVIER HOME...

WE READ THE LATE PAPERS--- MY BOY, YOU'RE A HERO! YOU'RE WORTHY OF THE NAME VANDEVIER!

THESE PEOPLE ARE GOOD. I THINK I CAN TRUST THEM WITH THE SECRET OF MY IDENTITY. AFTER ALL, THEY ARE MY PARENTS NOW!

ER--- DAD-- I'VE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU!



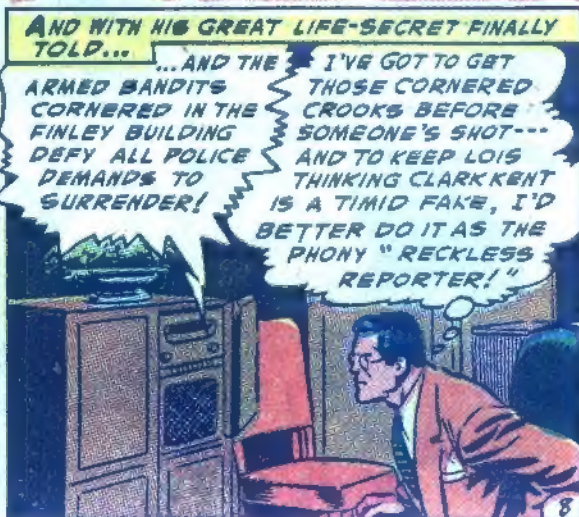
SORRY, SON, WE'RE LATE NOW FOR OUR DINNER ENGAGEMENT! IF IT'S IMPORTANT, LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR ME AND I WON'T HAVE TO WAKE YOU WHEN I GET HOME!

ALL RIGHT, DAD--- I WILL!



AND, IN THE VANDEVIER LIBRARY, CLARK KENT FINALLY DICTATES HIS SECRET INTO A WIRE-RECORDER...

I, CLARK KENT, HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE TO YOU, MY NEW PARENTS! I AM **SUPERMAN**! THIS IS HOW IT ALL CAME ABOUT---



AND WITH HIS GREAT LIFE-SECRET FINALLY TOLD...

...AND THE ARMED BANDITS CORNERED IN THE FINLEY BUILDING DEFY ALL POLICE DEMANDS TO SURRENDER!

I'VE GOT TO GET THOSE CORNERED CROOKS BEFORE SOMEONE'S SHOT--- AND TO KEEP LOIS THINKING CLARK KENT IS A TIMID FAKE, I'D BETTER DO IT AS THE PHONY "RECKLESS REPORTER!"





# ACTION COMICS



**METROPOLIS POLICE GET THE SURPRISE OF THEIR LIVES WHEN MEEK CLARK KENT VOLUNTEERS AN OFFER...**

LET ME GO IN THERE. MAYBE I CAN TALK THEM INTO SURRENDERING!

IT'S DANGEROUS, KENT--- BUT IF YOU'RE GAME, ALL RIGHT!

WHAT A HAM--- HE KNOWS **SUPERMAN** WILL SEE HE DOESN'T GET HURT!

DON'T SHOOT--- I'M JUST AN UNARMED REPORTER!

IF THEY DO SHOOT AT ME, I'LL HAVE TROUBLE EXPLAINING WHY THE BULLETS BOUNCE OFF ME!

**THE TRAPPED BANDITS HOLD THEIR FIRE--- FOR A GOOD REASON!**

YOU FELLOWS HAD BETTER GIVE UP! YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE!

NOT WHEN WE HAVE A GOOD HOSTAGE LIKE YOU! TIE HIM INTO A CHAIR, BOYS--- AND IF THEY TRY TO RUSH US, KENT WILL GET IT!

HAW, HAW, WHAT A SAP--- TO WALK INTO OUR HANDS!

DON'T POINT THOSE GUNS AT ME--- I CAN'T STAND IT--- I'M GETTING FAINT!

HE'S PASSED OUT FROM FRIGHT, CHIEF! WHAT A RABBIT!

WITH HIM FOR A HOSTAGE, WE CAN STAND THEM OFF TILL DARK AND THEN SLIP OUT!

**BUT IT IS CLARK WHO SLIPS OUT, WHEN THEIR BACKS ARE TURNED--- OUT OF HIS OUTER CLOTHES, AS **SUPERMAN**!**

BY EXPANDING MY MUSCLES, I STRETCHED THOSE ROPES ENOUGH TO LET ME SLIP OUT--- AND MY CLARK KENT SUIT, STUFFED OUT WITH OFFICE SCRAP-PAPER AT SUPER SPEED, WILL MAKE THEM THINK I'M STILL SLUMPED IN A FAINT HERE!

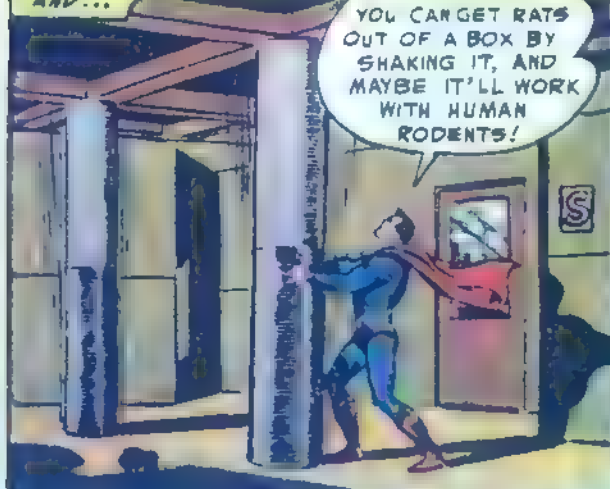




# ACTION COMICS



**MOVING WITH INVISIBLE SUPER-SPEED, SUPERMAN WHIZZES DOWN TO THE BASEMENT OF THE BUILDING AND...**



YOU CAN GET RATS OUT OF A BOX BY SHAKING IT, AND MAYBE IT'LL WORK WITH HUMAN RODENTS!

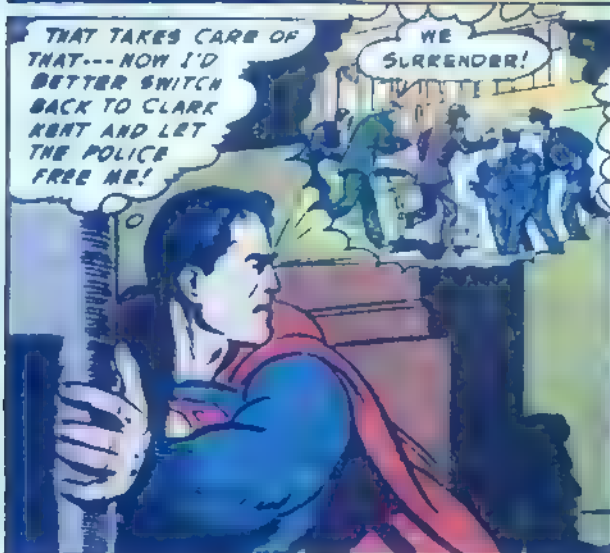
AN EARTHQUAKE! THE BUILDING'S GOING TO COLLAPSE ON US!

OUT OF HERE, QUICK... JAIL IS BETTER THAN BEING CRUSHED TO DEATH! DON'T BOTHER WITH THAT KENT SAP!



THAT TAKES CARE OF THAT--- NOW I'D BETTER SWITCH BACK TO CLARK KENT AND LET THE POLICE FREE ME!

WE SURRENDER!



**AND A MOMENT LATER...**

I'M SURE **SUPERMAN**

LUCKY THAT EARTH-TREMOR DROVE THEM OUT--- BUT KENT SURE DID A BRAVE THING!

MADE THAT TREMOR TO SAVE YOU--- BUT I WON'T GIVE YOU AWAY! AND THE PHOTOGRAPHS THAT **WOULD** GIVE YOU AWAY, I SENT OUT TO YOUR HOME BY SPECIAL MESSENGER SO NO ONE ELSE COULD SEE THEM!

ER--- THANKS, LOIS---



**BUT WHEN CLARK ARRIVES AT HIS NEW HOME, HE FINDS THAT A NATURAL MISTAKE HAS BEEN MADE!**

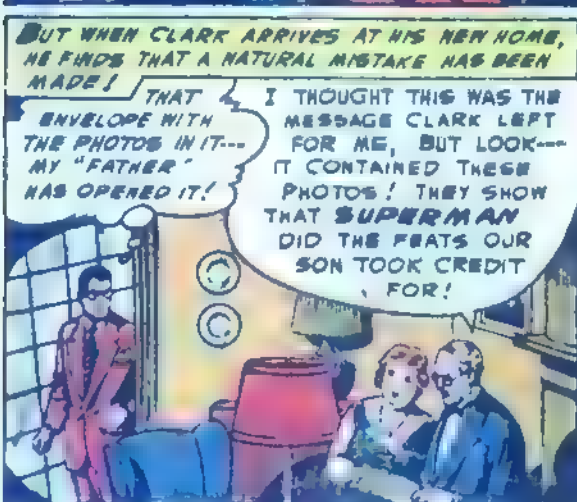
THAT ENVELOPE WITH THE PHOTOS IN IT--- MY "FATHER" HAS OPENED IT!

I THOUGHT THIS WAS THE MESSAGE CLARK LEFT FOR ME, BUT LOOK--- IT CONTAINED THESE PHOTOS! THEY SHOW THAT **SUPERMAN** DID THE FEATS OUR SON TOOK CREDIT FOR!

OH, NO, CLARK COULDN'T HAVE DECEIVED US THAT WAY---

THERE'S NO DOUBT! HE JUST LACKS COURAGE, AND THIS NOTE TO HIM, LOIS LANE WROTE, WITH THE PHOTOS, PROVES THAT HE HAD **SUPERMAN** PROTECT HIM!

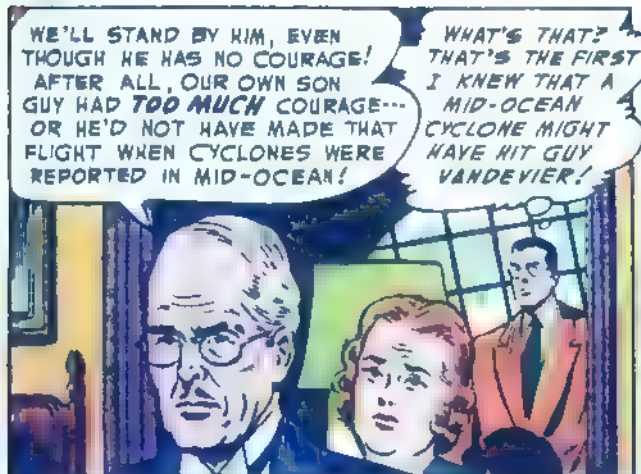
HE MUST NOT HAVE GOT MY TAPE-RECORD MESSAGE--- I'LL EXPLAIN TO THEM AT ONCE THAT I **AM SUPERMAN!**







# ACTION COMICS

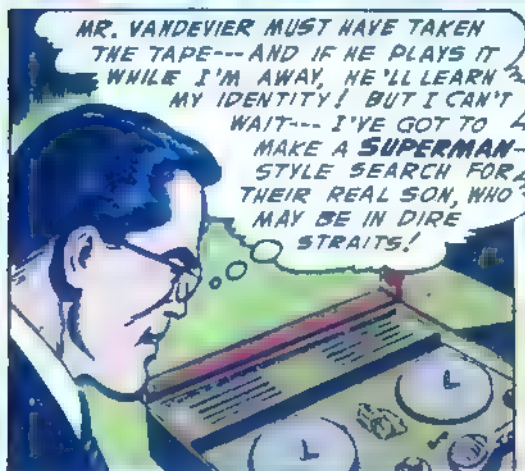


WE'LL STAND BY HIM, EVEN THOUGH HE HAS NO COURAGE! AFTER ALL, OUR OWN SON GUY HAD **TOO MUCH** COURAGE--- OR HE'D NOT HAVE MADE THAT FLIGHT WHEN CYCLONES WERE REPORTED IN MID-OCEAN!

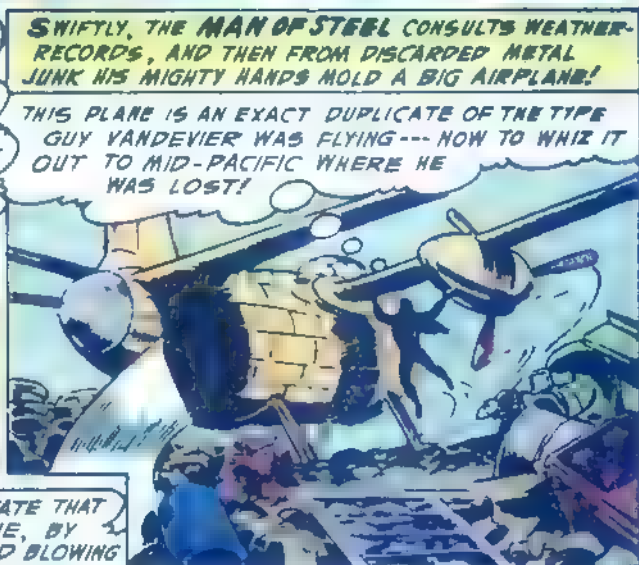
WHAT'S THAT? THAT'S THE FIRST I KNEW THAT A MID-OCEAN CYCLONE MIGHT HAVE HIT GUY VANDEVIER!



THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING--- EVEN THOUGH GUY IS MISSING, I MIGHT STILL FIND HIM BY MY METHODS! BUT FIRST, I'VE GOT TO RETRIEVE THAT TAPE-RECORDING I LEFT WITH MY SECRET IN IT!



MR. VANDEVIER MUST HAVE TAKEN THE TAPE--- AND IF HE PLAYS IT WHILE I'M AWAY, HE'LL LEARN MY IDENTITY! BUT I CAN'T WAIT--- I'VE GOT TO MAKE A **SUPERMAN-STYLE** SEARCH FOR THEIR REAL SON, WHO MAY BE IN DIRE STRAITS!

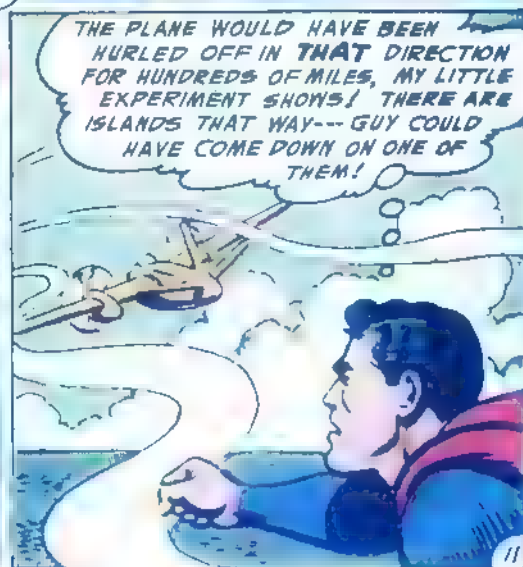


**SWIFTLY, THE MAN OF STEEL CONSULTS WEATHER RECORDS, AND THEN FROM DISCARDED METAL JUNK HIS MIGHTY HANDS HOLD A BIG AIRPLANE!**

THIS PLANE IS AN EXACT DUPLICATE OF THE TYPE GUY VANDEVIER WAS FLYING--- NOW TO WHIZ IT OUT TO MID-PACIFIC WHERE HE WAS LOST!



I CAN DUPLICATE THAT SMALL CYCLONE, BY CIRCLING AND BLOWING A SUPER-BLAST OF AIR AHEAD OF ME! WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO THE PLANE WHEN MY PRIVATE CYCLONE HITS IT!



THE PLANE WOULD HAVE BEEN HURLED OFF IN **THAT** DIRECTION FOR HUNDREDS OF MILES, MY LITTLE EXPERIMENT SHOWS! THERE ARE ISLANDS THAT WAY--- GUY COULD HAVE COME DOWN ON ONE OF THEM!





# ACTION COMICS



**AND A SUPER-EXPERIMENT... PAYS OFF!**

I WAS HOPING FOR A SHIP TO RESCUE ME SOMEDAY, BUT I DIDN'T HOPE FOR YOU, **SUPERMAN!**

COME ON, YOUNG FELLOW--- I'M TAKING YOU BACK TO YOUR PARENTS, AND FAST!



**AND AFTER RETURNING THE VANDEVIER'S REAL SON TO THEM, A QUICK EXIT AND CHANGE!**

OUR SON--- OUR REAL SON--- BACK WITH US!

**SUPERMAN** DESERVES THE CREDIT BUT HE WOULDN'T WAIT FOR THANKS, SAY, WHO'S THIS?

IT'S CLARK KENT--- HE LOOKED SO LIKE YOU THAT WE ADOPTED HIM, GUY!



BUT I'M BOWING OUT NOW YOU HAVE YOUR REAL SON BACK! ER--- I MADE A TAPE-RECORDING I'D LIKE TO TAKE WITH ME, THOUGH! DO YOU HAVE IT, MR. VANDEVIER?

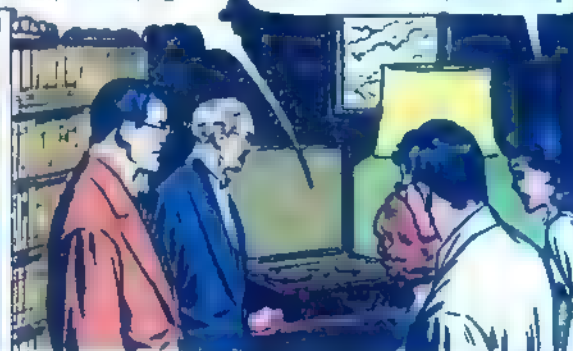
I TOOK A TAPE OUT OF THE RECORDER AND PUT IT IN THE DESK! JUST A MINUTE--- I'LL PLAY IT TO MAKE SURE IT'S NOT ONE OF MY OWN!



**AND AS THE REVEALING TAPE BEGINS UNWINDING, CLARK KENT'S VOICE SPEAKS FROM IT...**

I, CLARK KENT, HAVE A CONFESSION TO MAKE TO MY NEW PARENTS---

A CONFESSION? THIS MUST BE WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED! DON'T STOP THAT TAPE!



I CONFESS THAT **SUPERMAN** PROTECTED ME WHEN I DID THOSE DARING FEATS! I ONLY PRETENDED, TO PLEASE MY NEW PARENTS!

OH, IS THAT ALL?

YOU MAY BE TIMID BUT YOU'RE HONEST! I'M PROUD YOU WERE MY SON, EVEN FOR A WHILE!

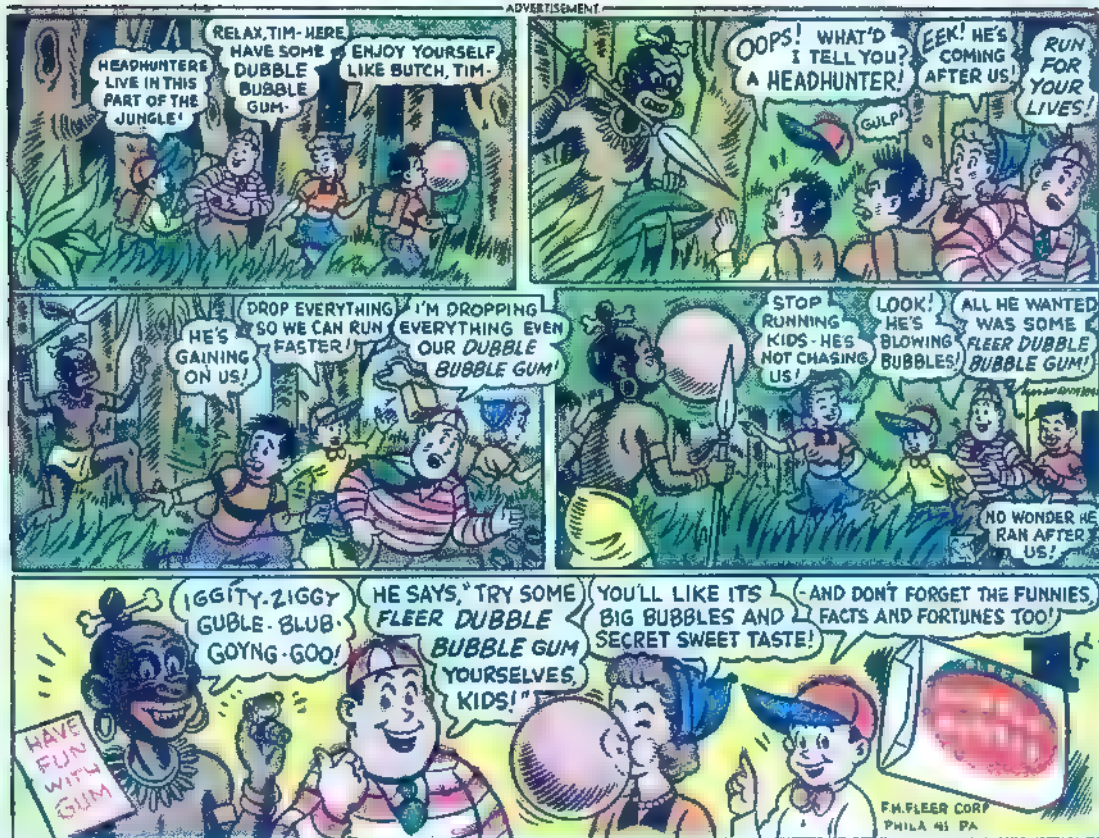
FOR A MINUTE, I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO CONFESS YOU WERE **SUPERMAN** YOURSELF!

WHAT A CRAZY IDEA!

LOIS WILL NEVER KNOW THAT I FUSED THE TAPE AS IT UNWOUND, BY THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION, AND USED SUPER-VENTRILLOQUISM TO MAKE THAT "CONFESSION" THEY HEARD!







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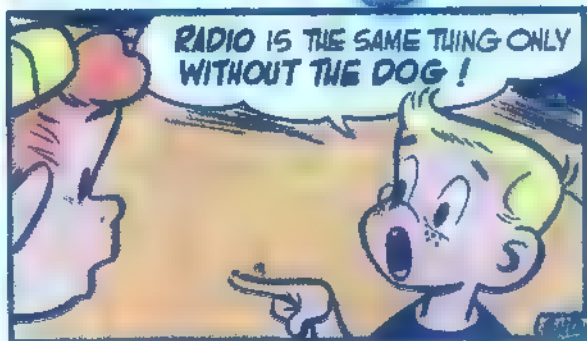
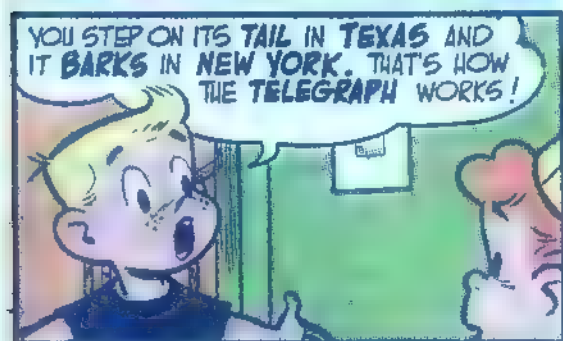
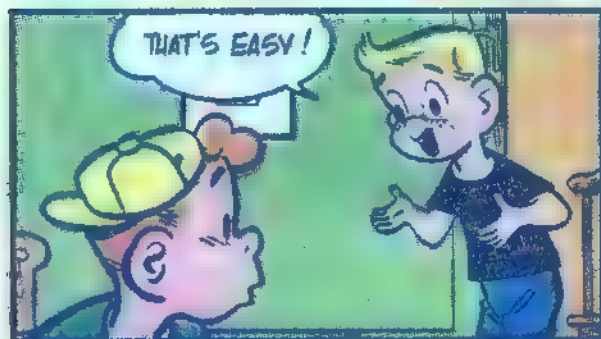
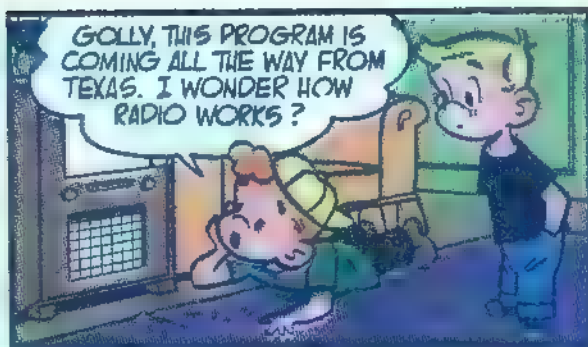
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ACTION COMICS  
ADVENTURE COMICS  
ALL-AMERICAN MEN OF WAR  
ALL STAR WESTERN  
ANIMAL ANTICS  
BATMAN  
BIG TOWN  
BOB HOPE  
BUZZY  
COMIC CAVALCADE  
DEAN MARTIN  
and JERRY LEWIS  
A DATE WITH JUDY  
DETECTIVE COMICS

EVERYTHING  
HAPPENS TO HARVEY  
FLIPPITY & FLOP  
FUNNY FOLKS  
FUNNY STUFF  
GANG BUSTERS  
HERE'S HOWIE  
HOPALONG CASSIDY  
HOUSE OF MYSTERY  
LEADING COMICS  
LEAVE IT TO BINKY  
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
MYSTERY IN SPACE  
MUTT & JEFF

OUR ARMY AT WAR  
PETER PANDA  
PETER PORKCHOPS  
REAL SCREEN COMICS  
REX THE WONDER DOG  
STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES  
STRANGE ADVENTURES  
SUPERBOY  
SUPERMAN  
THE FOX & THE CROW  
TOMAHAWK  
WESTERN COMICS  
WONDER WOMAN  
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS





## SUPERMEN OF AMERICA

### SUPERMAN'S SECRET MESSAGE

(Code Mercury No. 1)

EPO'U NBLF UPP NBOZ SF-  
TPMUVJPOT GPS UIF OFX  
ZFBS. NBLF B GFX — UIFZ  
XJMM CF FBTJFS UP LFFQ.

SUPERMAN,  
c/o ACTION COMICS  
480 LEXINGTON AVENUE, N. Y. C. 17, N. Y.

FEB.

Dear Superman:

Please enroll me as a Member of the SUPERMEN of AMERICA. I enclose 10c to cover cost of mailing. It is understood that I am to receive my Membership Certificate, Emblem and Superman Code.

NAME..... AGE.....

STREET ADDRESS.....

CITY..... ZONE..... STATE.....





# CONGO BILL

THE TENDERFOOT ARRIVED IN AFRICA, ARMED WITH AN 8 M.M. MAUSER RIFLE, A DIPLOMA FROM A CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL THAT TAUGHT BIG GAME HUNTING BY MAIL, AND A BURNING AMBITION TO IMITATE THAT GREATEST OF JUNGLE MEN, CONGO BILL! BUT IF THE ACE ADVENTURER THOUGHT HE'D HAVE HIS HANDS FULL PROTECTING HIS EAGER CLIENT, HE WAS IN FOR THE SURPRISE OF HIS LIFE AFTER HE MET...

## The MAIL-ORDER HUNTER!

DON'T WORRY, CONGO BILL. I'LL PROTECT YOU! NOW LET'S SEE WHAT THIS LESSON ABOUT ELEPHANT HUNTING SAYS!

DON'T BE A FOOL, DICK! RUN FOR YOUR LIFE AND TAKE COVER!



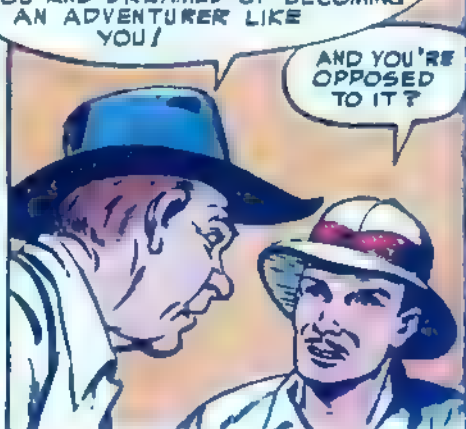
ONE DAY, AT A CAMP PITCHED ALONG THE BANKS OF THE KAGERA RIVER, IN EAST AFRICA, CONGO BILL, TROUBLE-SHOOTER FOR WORLD WIDE INSURANCE CO., ARRIVES TO KEEP AN APPOINTMENT

YOU'RE RIGHT ON TIME, CONGO BILL! THIS IS MY SON, DICK!

HOW ARE YOU, DICK? THIS IS A FRIEND OF MINE, JUMA, ONE OF AFRICA'S BEST GUIDES!

I GUESS YOU'RE WONDERING WHY I HIRED YOU FOR THIS SAFARI, CONGO BILL! IT'S BECAUSE ALL HIS LIFE DICK HAS ADMIRED YOU AND DREAMED OF BECOMING AN ADVENTURER LIKE YOU!

AND YOU'RE OPPOSED TO IT?







# ACTION COMICS



YES! I WANT DICK TO TAKE HIS PLACE ALONGS DE ME AT THE HACKETT IRON WORKS! BUT DICK THINKS BUSINESS IS BORING-- SO, HE TOOK A CORRESPONDENCE COURSE IN BIG-GAME HUNTING, AND MADE ME BRING HIM OUT HERE!

AND WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

PROTECT HIM, CONGO BILL! HE THINKS HE KNOWS TALL, AND WON'T LISTEN TO ANYONE ELSE!

I LEARNED MY LESSONS WELL! I KNOW AS MUCH ABOUT BIG-GAME HUNTING AS ANYONE-- EXCEPTING CONGO BILL!

THIS VERY DAY, AS THE SAHAR ENTERS THE BUSH...

UNDERSTAND, DICK? SINCE THERE'S NO DEN ON THE GRASS OF THIS ELEPHANT TRAIL, IT MEANS ELEPHANTS PASSED HERE RECENTLY!

YES, I SEE-- IT'S A SIGN THEIR LEGS STAMPED OUT THE DEN!

SUDDENLY...

BULL ELEPHANT!

AND A WILD MAN-KILLER! QUICKLY, UP THESE TREES, EVERYONE!

DICK, YOU FOOL-- THAT MAUSER CAN'T STOP AN ELEPHANT, GET UP HERE, OR YOU'LL BE KILLED!

NO! I CAME HERE TO BAG BIG GAME, AND THAT'S WHAT I PLAN TO DO, STARTING WITH THIS BEAST!

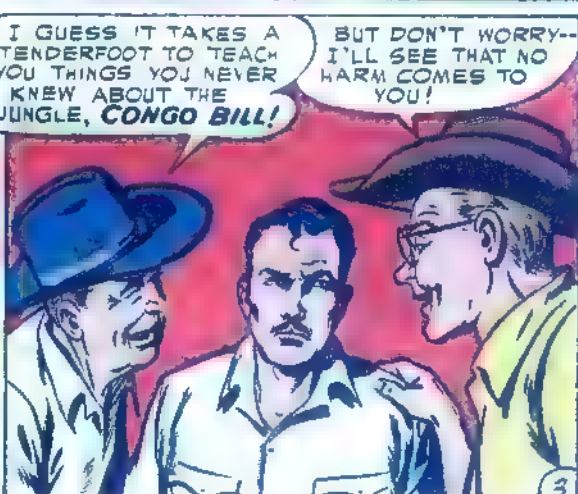
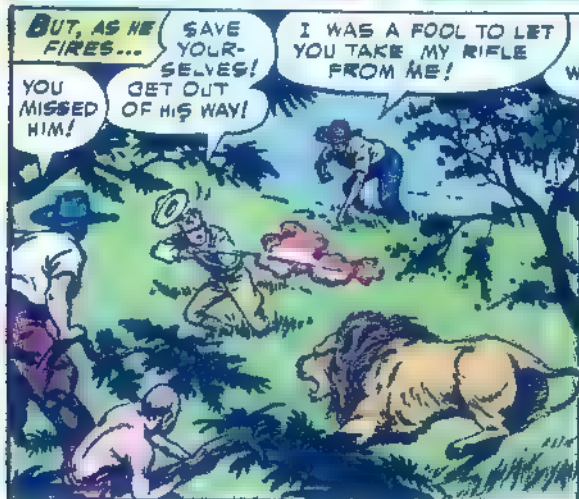
THEN TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE...

GOT HIM!

KILLING ELEPHANTS ISN'T AS TOUGH AS I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE!

YOU WERE JUST LUCKY! YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN KILLED!









# ACTION COMICS



AT LENGTH, THE SAFARI REACHES A SLUGGISH STREAM...

WAIT A MINUTE! NOTICE HOW MOTIONLESS THOSE CROCODILES ARE? THAT MEANS THEY SCENT AN ENEMY, AND THEY'RE LYING IN WAIT FOR IT TO ENTER THE STREAM!

I HOPE THEY'RE MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE OTHERS WE'VE MET SO FAR!

CROCS ARE PLENTY DANGEROUS-- BUT NOT HALF SO DANGEROUS AS A THREE-TON RHINOCEROS! NOW DON'T TRY ANY OF YOUR FOOLISH TRICKS WITH THIS MONSTER!

WHY CAN'T I TAKE A SHOT AT IT?



BECAUSE THE ONLY WAY TO KILL A RHINO IS BY A SHOT IN THE BRAIN, AND THAT MAUSER OF YOURS COULD NEVER PENETRATE THE SOLID BONE THAT PROTECTS HIS BRAIN!

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!

THAT'S IT! RUN ZIGZAG! A RHINO CAN ONLY TRAVEL IN A STRAIGHT LINE WHEN HE'S CHARGING! EVERYONE BEHIND TREES!

HAVING CONGO BILL WITH US PAID OFF AFTER ALL!



BUT, SUDDENLY, YOUNG DICK STUMBLES, AND...

CONGO BILL, DICK HAS FALLEN RIGHT IN THE PATH OF THE RHINO! SAVE HIM! SAVE HIM!

I CAN'T-- HE'S TOO FAR AWAY!! A SHOT FROM MY RIFLE IN THE RHINO'S FLANK WOULD ONLY STING HIM!

THEN, AS DICK DESPERATELY GRASPS A SMALL...

GO ON, BEAT IT-- BEAT IT!

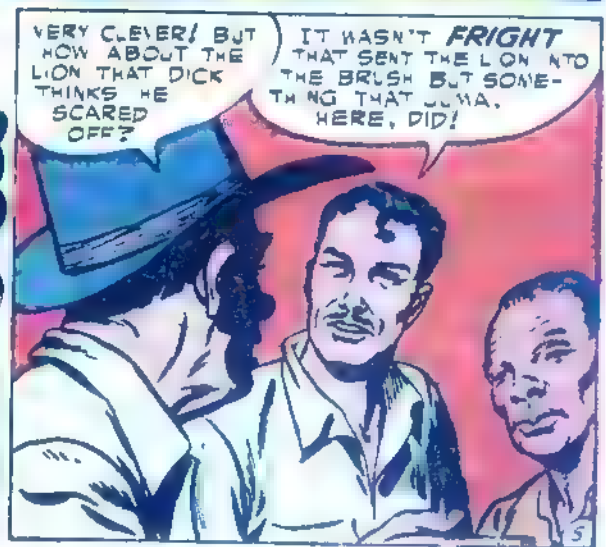
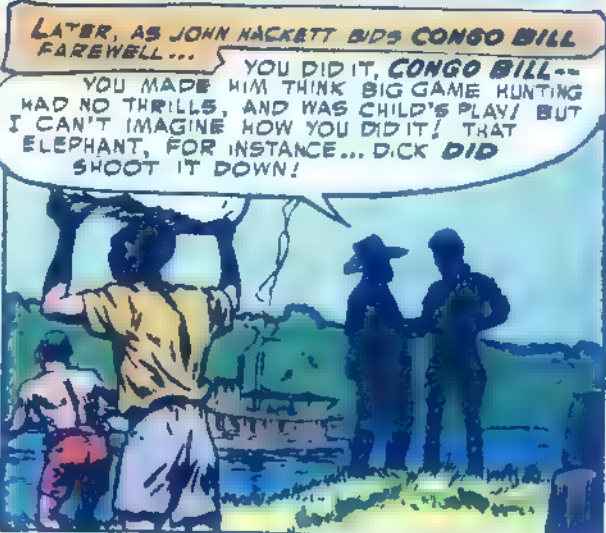
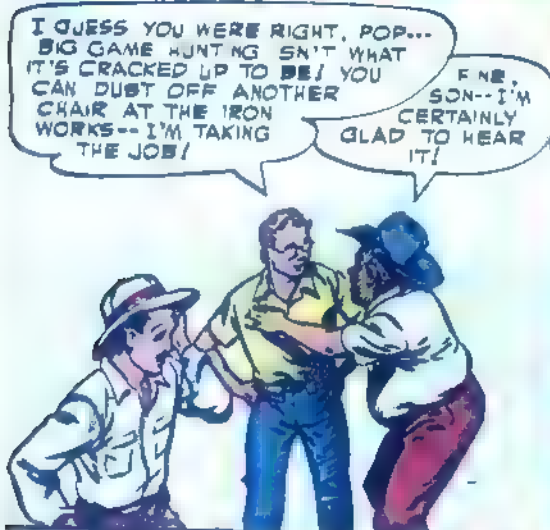
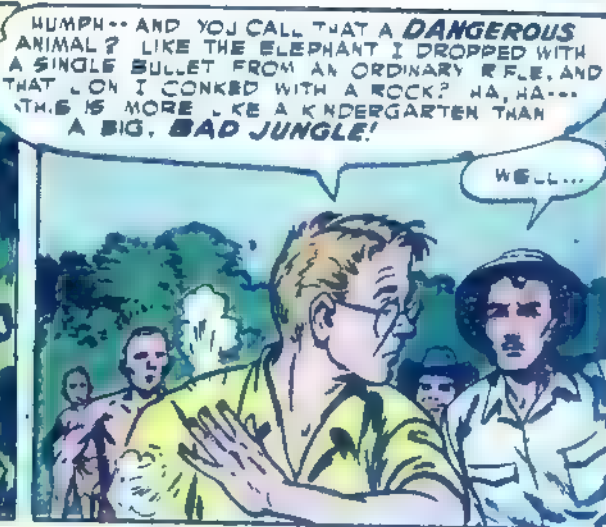
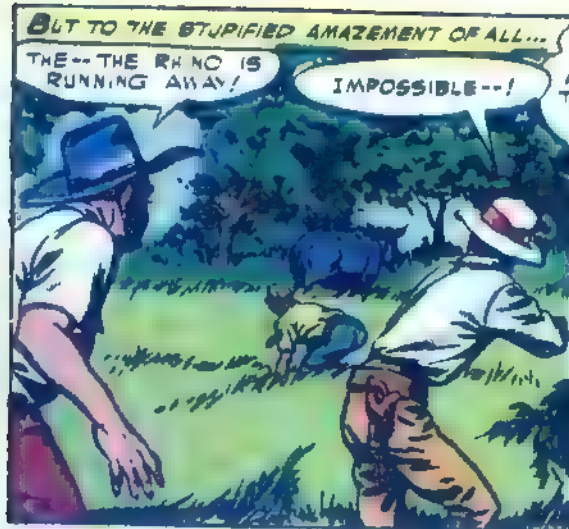
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO, YOU FOOL-- A PUSSYCAT? RHINOS DON'T SCARE THAT EASILY! RUN! RUN!







# ACTION COMICS







# ACTION COMICS

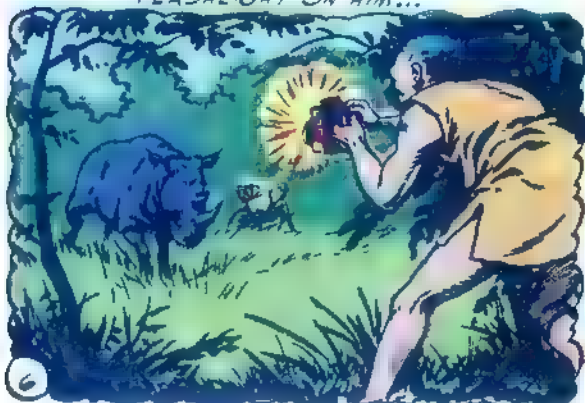


"YOU SEE, LIONS CONSIDER THE ZEBRA THE BEST FOOD! SO JUMA CHASED A ZEBRA THIS WAY, UNTIL THE LION CAUGHT ITS SCENT..."

GOOD! LION WILL STOP CHARGING DICK NOW, AND START THIS WAY!



"THE RHINO IS, BY FAR, THE MOST STUPID BEAST IN THE JUNGLE. AND ANY SUDDEN FLASH OF LIGHT WILL SEND HIM CHARGING IN ITS DIRECTION, SO JUMA TURNED A FLASHLIGHT ON HIM..."



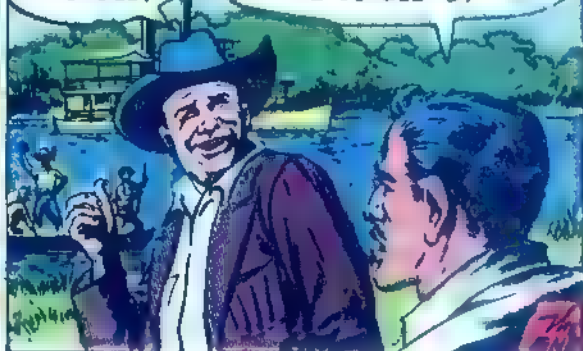
WONDERFUL, CONGO BILL! AND NOW FOR THE LAST STUNT-- THAT RHINOCEROS! WHAT DO YOU DO TO MAKE IT SEEM THAT HE WAS SCARED BY THAT BUSH DICK WAS WAVING?

OH, THAT WAS THE EASIEST OF ALL, HACKETT!



I'M AFRAID IT WOULD TAKE DICK THE REST OF HIS LIFE TO LEARN AS MUCH AS YOU KNOW ABOUT THE JUNGLE!

YES, BUT YOU'D BETTER NOT TELL HIM THE TRUTH-- OR HE'LL HOP THE NEXT BOAT BACK HERE--AND FRANKLY, I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO THAN PROVE HOW HARMLESS THE JUNGLE IS!



GET WILDROOT CREAM-OIL!



PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE BECAUSE YOUR HAIR IS A MESS? WILDROOT CREAM-OIL KEEPS IT GROOMED NATURALLY WITHOUT GREASINESS. NO DRYING ALCOHOL. NO HARSH SYNTHETICS. CONTAINS NATURE'S MAGIC LANOLIN. TRY A BOTTLE OR HANDY TUBE TODAY.



29¢ and 59¢





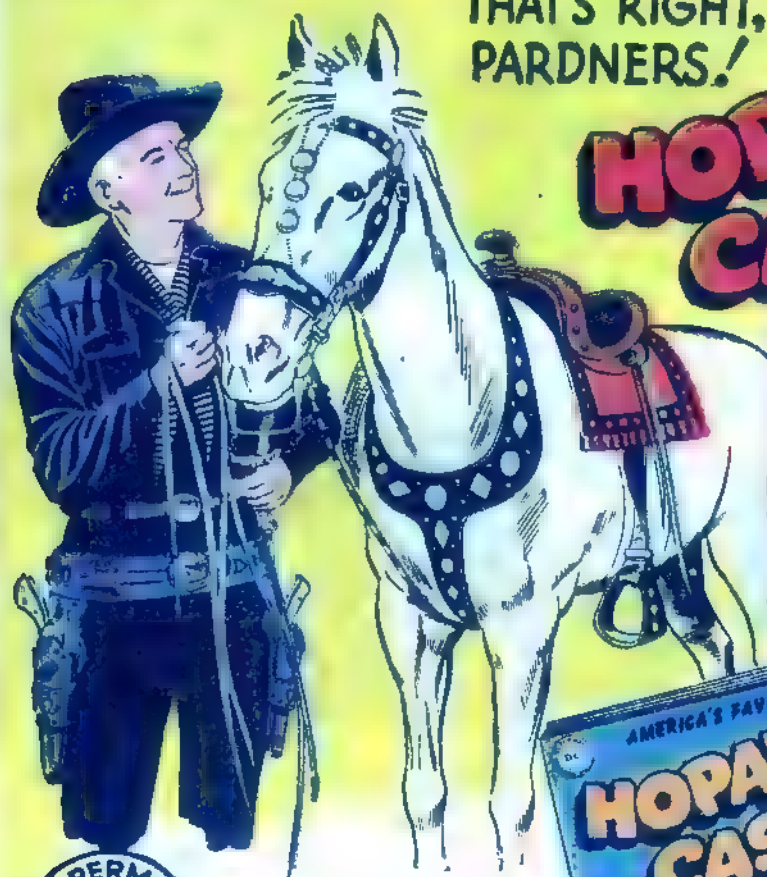
DID YOU HEAR  
THE EXCITING NEWS, "TOPPER"?  
WE'VE JOINED THE D-C LINE  
OF STARS!

THAT'S RIGHT,  
PARDNERS!

# HOPALONG CASSIDY

AMERICA'S  
FAVORITE  
COWBOY

will be galloping  
your way every  
month in **THREE**  
brand-new  
fast-action  
adventures!



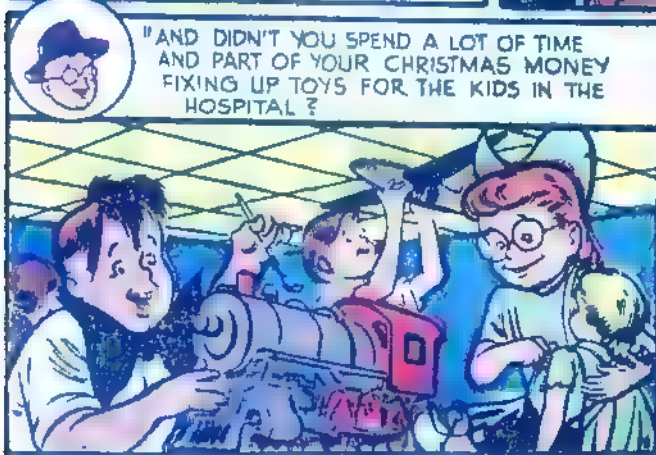
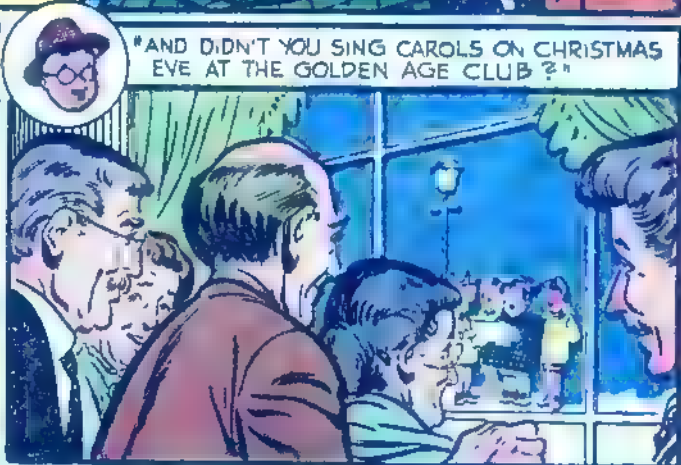
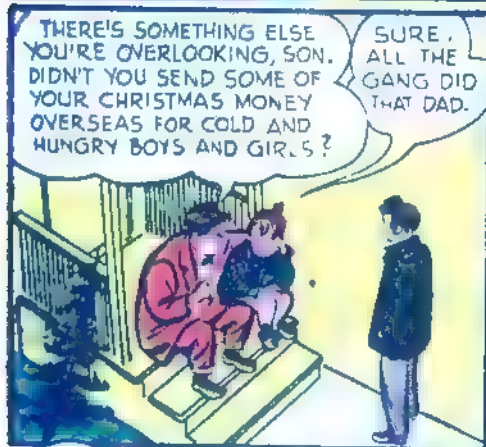
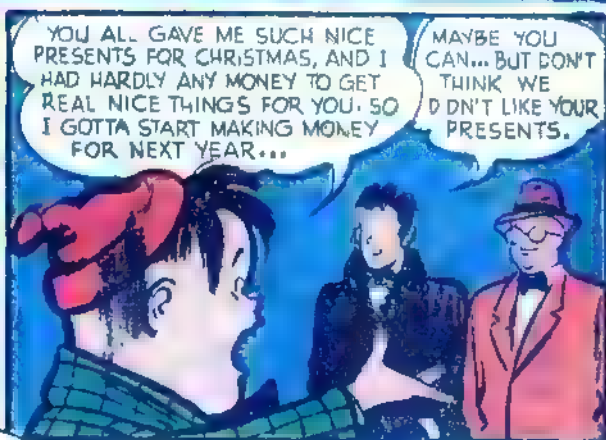
LOOK FOR HOPPY'S  
REAL-LIFE COVER AT YOUR  
FAVORITE NEWSSTAND!

ON SALE  
*Everywhere!*





# Binky in <sup>DO</sup> The BEST PRESENT OF ALL! <sup>DO</sup>



PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY,  
COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U.S.





# Tommy TOMORROW

IT'S NOT A COMET...  
IT'S TOMMY  
TOMORROW'S  
SHIP TRYING TO  
REACH FORBIDDEN  
WORLD!

AMONG THE WORLDS OF TOMORROW,  
THERE IS A TOP-SECRET ONE THAT  
ORDINARY SPACEMEN ARE NOT  
ALLOWED TO VISIT.  
BUT WHEN CRAFTY PLOTTERS SEIZE  
THAT GUARDED PLANETOID, THE  
TABLES ARE TURNED--AND TOMMY  
TOMORROW MUST USE ALL THE  
TRICKS OF 21ST CENTURY SCIENCE  
TO SAVE THE SECRET OF... *The*

## FORBIDDEN WORLD!

ONE MORNING IN THE YEAR 2054, AT PLANETEERS HEADQUARTERS, OFFICE OF THE COMMANDANT...

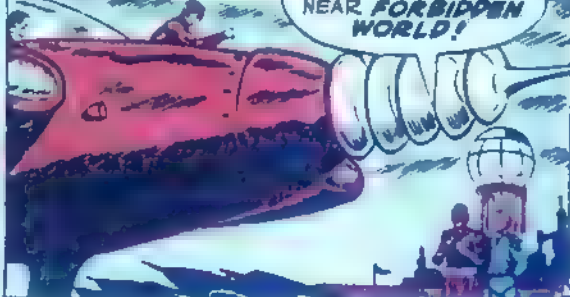
THAT'S RIGHT, SIR... WITH THESE  
NEW DEVICES I'VE INVENTED,  
THE PLANETEERS WILL BE  
ABLE TO RID THE UNIVERSE  
OF CRIME FOREVER!

VERY WELL, DR.  
NORTH... WE'LL  
SEE **HOW**  
EFFECTIVE YOUR  
INVENTIONS ARE.  
I'LL ASSIGN MY  
BEST MAN TO  
TEST THEM!

THIS, COLONEL TOMMY TOMORROW AND HIS CO-PILOT, CAPTAIN BRENT WOOD, SOON RECEIVE A FATEFUL ASSIGNMENT...

WE'LL TEST DR. NORTH'S  
INVENTIONS FULLY, SIR!

AND REMEMBER,  
COLONEL TOMORROW,  
WE DON'T WANT THEM  
TALKED ABOUT! TEST  
THEM WHERE YOU WON'T  
BE SEEN--OUT IN THE  
RESTRICTED AREA  
NEAR **FORBIDDEN  
WORLD!**







# ACTION COMICS



SHORTLY, AS TOMMY'S FAMED SHIP, THE **SPACE ACE**, ENTERS A RESTRICTED AREA OF THE ASTEROID ZONE...

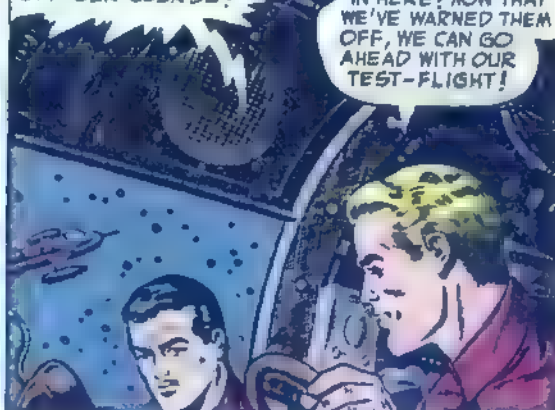
TOMMY--GET A LOAD OF THAT SMALL SHIP OUT THERE--IT'S FLYING MUCH TOO NEAR **FORBIDDEN WORLD**!

I'LL WARN THEM OFF BY RADIO! **SPACE ACE** TO UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT... CHANGE COURSE AT ONCE!



SORRY... WE WERE OUT PROSPECTING METEORS AND WENT OFF OUR COURSE!

JUST SOME SPACE PROSPECTORS WHO BLUNDERED IN HERE! NOW THAT WE'VE WARNED THEM OFF, WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH OUR TEST-FLIGHT!



BUT IN THE "PROSPECTORS" SHIP AS **SPACE ACE** MOVES ON...

SO WHAT IF THAT **PLANETEER** IS GONE, VANNING & THE RADAR DEVICES ON **FORBIDDEN WORLD** WILL STILL WARN OF OUR APPROACH!

DON'T WORRY... I KNOW A WAY TO GET ONTO THAT GUARDED PLANETOID! WE'LL USE OUR **SPACE LIFE-BOAT**!



AND PRESENTLY, AS A LITTLE LIFEBOAT ENTERS THE RESTRICTED ZONE...

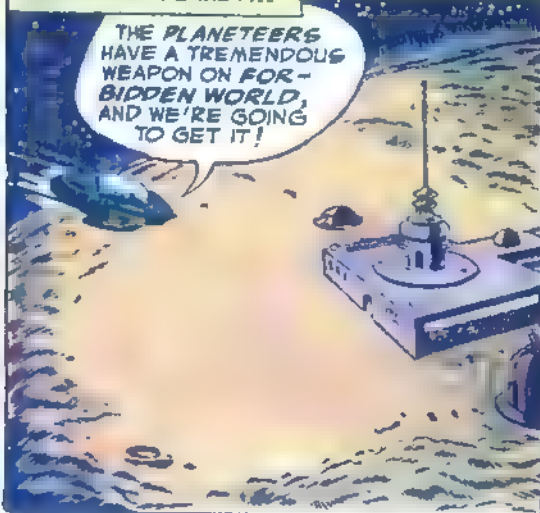
CALLING **FORBIDDEN WORLD**! OUR SHIP WAS WRECKED--OUR LIFE-BOAT'S DRIFTING TOWARD YOU!

YOU'RE SHIPWRECKED? ALL RIGHT... WE'LL ALLOW YOU TO LAND!



THROUGH MENACING METEORS AND ASTEROIDS, THE LITTLE CRAFT MOVES TOWARD A TINY, PROHIBITED PLANET...

THE **PLANETEERS** HAVE A TREMENDOUS WEAPON ON **FORBIDDEN WORLD**, AND WE'RE GOING TO GET IT!

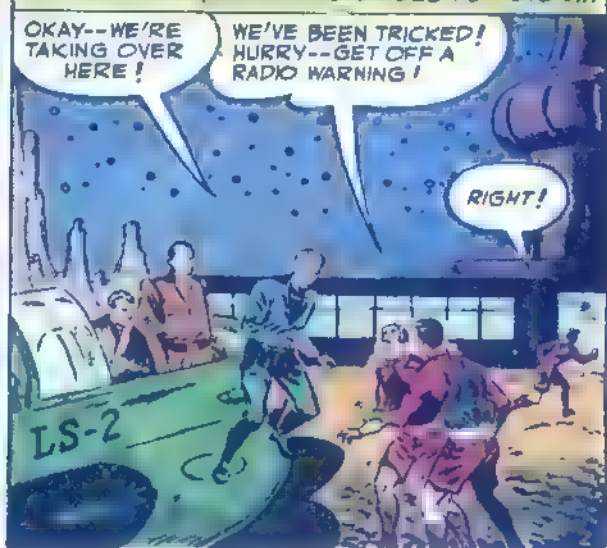


MINUTES LATER, ON THE MYSTERIOUS PLANETOID...

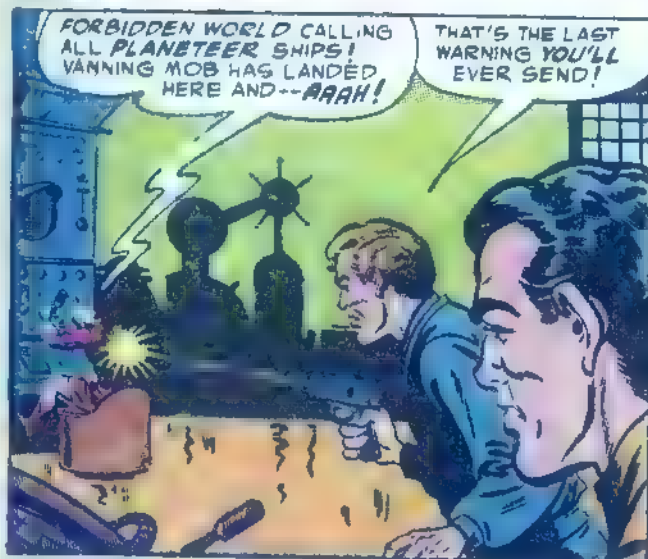
OKAY--WE'RE TAKING OVER HERE!

WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! HURRY--GET OFF A RADIO WARNING!

RIGHT!

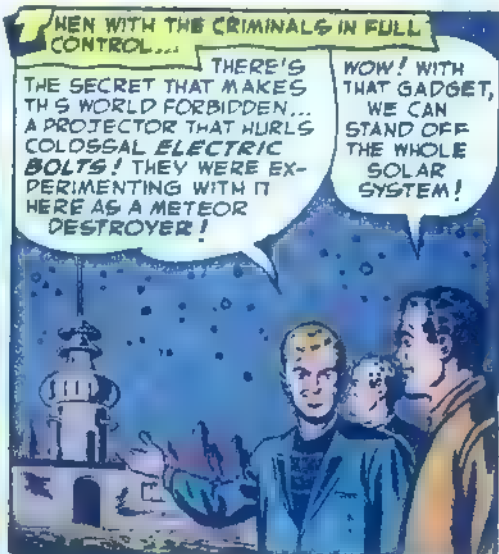






FORBIDDEN WORLD CALLING ALL PLANETEER SHIPS! VANNING MOB HAS LANDED HERE AND--**AAAH!**

THAT'S THE LAST WARNING YOU'LL EVER SEND!



**7** MEN WITH THE CRIMINALS IN FULL CONTROL...

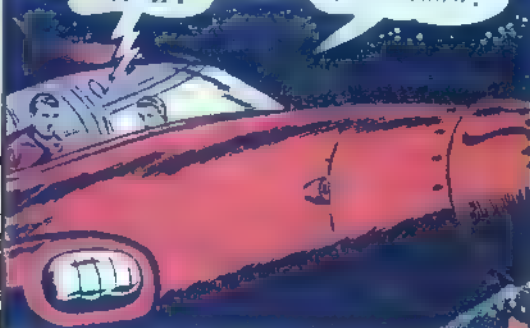
THERE'S THE SECRET THAT MAKES THIS WORLD FORBIDDEN... A PROJECTOR THAT HURLS COLOSSAL **ELECTRIC BOLTS!** THEY WERE EXPERIMENTING WITH IT HERE AS A METEOR DESTROYER!

WOW! WITH THAT GADGET, WE CAN STAND OFF THE WHOLE SOLAR SYSTEM!

MEANWHILE, WHERE TOMMY AND BRENT HAVE PICKED UP THE DOOMED **PLANETEERS'** LAST WORDS...

CALLING ALL PLANETEER SHIPS! VANNING MOB HAS LANDED HERE AND--**AAAH!**

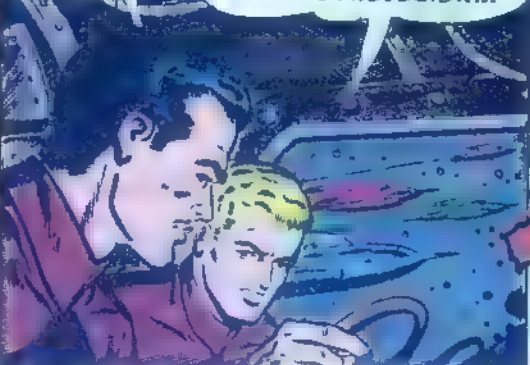
GREAT SCOTT! HEAR THAT, BRENT? WE MUST GET OVER THERE RIGHT AWAY!



PLANETEER SHIPS RACE FROM ALL PARTS OF SPACE TO ANSWER THE CALL...

OUR SHIPS CAN GO IN FAST, ALL TOGETHER!

BUT THE RADAR WILL TELL THEM WE'RE COMING-- AND IF THEY USE THE ELECTRIC PROJECTOR...



NEXT INSTANT...

**YOW!** YOU WERE RIGHT, TOMMY! WE CAN'T FACE THOSE TERRIBLE BOLTS! THEY'LL DESTROY US ALL!

COLONEL TOMORROW SPEAKING... ALL SHIPS RETREAT! IT'S SUICIDE TO KEEP GOING!







# ACTION COMICS



**AND WHEN ALL THE SHIPS HAVE LANDED ON A NEARBY ASTEROID...**

THAT PROJECTOR CAN DESTROY ANYTHING THAT APPROACHES, COLONEL TOMORROW! VANNING WILL MAKE **FORBIDDEN WORLD** AN INVULNERABLE CRIME BASE!

THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE... CAPTAIN WOOD AND I WILL TRY TO REACH THEM IN THE **SPACE ACE**, ALONE!

**MINUTES LATER, AS THE TWO FRIENDS TAKE OFF...**

IT'S HOPELESS... THE RADAR ON **FORBIDDEN WORLD** WILL DETECT THEIR APPROACH, AND VANNING WILL BLAST THEM!

YOU'RE RIGHT! EVEN COLONEL TOMORROW CAN'T GET TO THAT PLANETOID!

**BUT INSIDE THE SPACE ACE...**

WE MUST GIVE DR. NORTH'S INVENTIONS A LIFE-OR-DEATH TEST! I'LL TRY THIS CAMOUFLAGE-DEVICE FIRST!

THE RADAR WILL STILL WARN THEM THAT WE'RE COMING!

YES-- BUT THE ELECTRIFIED PARTICLES THE INVENTION RELEASES AROUND US WILL MAKE OUR SHIP LOOK LIKE A SMALL COMET!

MUST BE FOOLING THEM ALL RIGHT, TOMMY... THEY HAVEN'T USED THE ELECTRIC BOLTS ON US YET!

SHALL WE TRY TO GET TO **FORBIDDEN WORLD** IN THE COMET-DISGUISE?

NO--THEY'D BECOME ALARMED AND WOULD BLAST THE "COMET" OUT OF SPACE! WE'LL USE THIS OTHER CAMOUFLAGE-DEVICE!

THIS PROJECTED RING OF LIGHT AROUND US MAKES US LOOK LIKE ONE OF THE RINGED ASTEROIDS! THIS WAY, WE CAN GET ACROSS THE SWARM WITHOUT THEIR SUSPECTING!





# ACTION COMICS



**AGAIN A SCIENTIFIC TRICK TRIUMPHS--BUT A TERRIBLE DANGER LOOMS CLOSER...**

WE HAVE TO GET ACROSS THAT OPEN SPACE TO **FOR-BIDDEN WORLD!**

DR. NORTH'S **INVISIBILITY-REFRACTOR** WILL KEEP US INVISIBLE ONLY A FEW MINUTES--BUT IT MAY BE TIME ENOUGH!

AND AS THE SHIP, MADE PHANTOM-LIKE BY REFRACTION APPARATUS, SLIPS TOWARD **FORBIDDEN WORLD...**

OUR RADAR SHOWS A SHIP APPROACHING BUT I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT!

IT'S A **PLANETEER TRICK!** WE CAN DESTROY THEM BY RADAR!

**BUT THE RESOURCEFUL PLANTEER ESCAPES DESTRUCTION BY A LIGHTNING-FAST STRATAGEM...**

MISSED THEM! THEY'RE LANDING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD!

**CRACK**

BUT THEY'RE TRAPPED THERE! IF THEIR SHIP SHOWS ITSELF AGAIN, WE CAN BLAST IT!

**SECONDS LATER...**

BUT, TOMMY... IF WE FLY THE **SPACE ACE** AROUND TO THAT LAB, THEY'LL BLAST US DOWN!

I'VE PREPARED DR. NORTH'S DRILL AND MAGNET GADGETS FOR ACTION--AND WITH THEM, WE CAN APPROACH IN A WAY THEY WON'T EXPECT! GET IN--WE'RE READY NOW!

**A**ND THE SPACE SHIP, SPINNING WITH TERRIFIC SPEED, BECOMES A MACHINE OF INCREDIBLE POWER...

**FORBIDDEN WORLD** IS A SMALL PLANETOID, SO BY USING THE **SPACE ACE** AS A HUGE DRILL, WE CAN BORE RIGHT THROUGH IT!



AND IN ANOTHER MOMENT...

HEY! THE GROUND'S SHAKING LIKE AN EARTHQUAKE OR--

IT'S THAT PLANETEER SHIP COMING UP THROUGH THE PLANETOID! QUICK--TURN THE ELECTRIC BOLTS ON IT!

BUT SUDDENLY, A SPACE SHIP DRILL BECOMES A HUGE SPACE SHIP MAGNET!

HE'S PULLING THE WHOLE LAB-TOWER AWAY WITH HIM, BY MAKING HIS SHIP A MAGNET!

WE'RE FINISHED! WITH THAT GONE, WE CAN'T STOP THE PLANETEERS FROM COMING HERE AND GRABBING US!

AND SO, AFTER THE CRIMINALS HAVE BEEN SEIZED...

THE METEOR-DESTROYING WEAPON IS SAFE NOW, BUT IT'S A WARNING OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SUCH THINGS FALL INTO WRONG HANDS!

YOU'RE RIGHT... WE'LL KEEP DR. NORTH'S INVENTIONS SAFE IN OUR VAULTS, FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY!

LATER, UPON RETURNING TO REGULAR DUTY...

CALLING ALL PLANETEERS! DANGEROUS METEORS REPORTED NEAR THE MOON!

BOY--AFTER THAT TEST-FLIGHT JOB, IT'S A RELIEF TO GET BACK TO THIS DULL, EVERYDAY ROUTINE!

The End

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 35, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF ACTION COMICS, published Monthly at New York, N. Y. for October 1, 1953

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J. S. LIEBOWITZ, Business Manager.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 29th day of September, 1953  
ALFRED B. YAFFE, Notary Public  
(My Commission expires March 30, 1954).



# *The World's Most Dangerous Sport*



## **A Karate Fighter Can Poke His Fist Through a Solid Door or Shatter a Thick Board With a Finger**

**T**HERE is a sport that is so potentially brutal that it has been banned outside the ring as assault with a dangerous weapon! The name of this sport is Karate—pronounced “Kah-rah-tee”—and when translated literally means “empty hands.” In Japan, participants train for years to perfect the science.

One seeing this sport in action for the first time is invariably amazed at the damage that can be done without the use of blackjacks, or clubs.

An American observer once approached an expert in the science of Karate, and asked him what the sport was based on. The answer was:

“Karate begins where jujitsu leaves off. It is based on two facts. One is that there are 44 vital points on the human body where a sharp, properly timed blow can bring instant maiming or death!”

“And the other fact?”

“The other fact is that there are many parts of the body, besides the hands, which can be converted into dangerous weapons. For instance, the elbow, the knee, the head, the foot. With proper training, even the shoulder can knock out another man. In the language of the science, every part of the body that has been turned into a weapon is known as a ‘sword point.’”

“Can anyone become a Karate fighter?”

“Anyone who is willing to spend years and years in the tough grind of mastering the murderous art! And, believe me, the work is almost inhuman!”

The American found himself becoming more and more interested in the subject. “Go on,” he urged, “tell me exactly what a man must do before he becomes an expert Karate fighter.”

The Japanese expert responded readily: “The Karate novice starts out, not by developing his offensive sword points, but by learning the technique of defense. Take a look at that fighter!”

The American turned to look in the direction the Japanese expert was pointing. Two Karate fighters were facing each other, maneuvering for position. Suddenly, one of them, using his hand like a paddle, struck his opponent a glancing blow on the shoulder, and the opponent went down like a stricken bull.

The Japanese expert nodded to the American, and said: “Follow me. I want to show you something!”

The American was shown the hand of the Karate fighter. The American felt the outstretched hand. It felt like iron. The middle finger had a callous on it that was sharpened to razor-point.



The expert fetched an inch-thick board and handed it to the Karate fighter. The latter, knowing what was expected of him without being told, held the stout board in one hand, and with the other gave it a sharp blow. The board shattered.

"Amazing!" cried the American, as the Karate fighter bowed slightly, and stepped away.

"Yes," said the Karate expert, "it is amazing, but remember, this man spent many years developing the art. As I told you before, he first spent month after month perfecting defensive measures.

"And even for defense, he learned to use every part of his body to fend off blows thrown at him by a trained Karate fighter. When he has mastered the art of defending himself against one Karate fighter, he must then face two fighters! And even then he is not ready to go on the defensive!"

"What more must he do?"

"He must be able to defend himself against four Karate fighters, all of them attacking him at the same time. When he has accomplished this, then the fledgling is allowed to learn the offensive points of Karate!"

"It doesn't seem possible," exclaimed the American.

"My dear man," refuted the Japanese expert, "before a fighter is considered an expert, he must be able to defend himself against 12 attacking Karate fighters!"

By this time, the American learned, the novice has built up his body into a fine, hard fighting instrument by means of gruelling exercises conducted concurrently with the defensive lessons.

"Now he is ready to shape his sword points."

The hand is, of course, the major weapon. And it is actually the side of the hand that

represents the most potent weapon in the Karate fighter's arsenal. He begins hardening, or shaping this weapon by rapping it smartly against a board. Then, by degrees, and as the side of the hand becomes tougher and tougher, harder blows are struck. By the time the side of the hand is as tough as an elephant's hide, the Karate fighter can easily shatter a brick, while a sharp rap with a finger can split six half-inch boards.

Karate fighters have stuck their fists through solid mahogany doors, and a good Karate man can smash six heavy roof tiles with a sock from his head!

Within recent years, stringent rules have been passed regarding Karate sports contests. Perhaps the most remarkable one is that henceforth the fighters must not actually land blows on their opponents. Too many Karate fighters were being carried out with broken necks and twisted backs.

Nowadays, fighters go through the motions of fighting, and the referee scores a point for every blow that *could* have landed if the fighter hadn't held back at the last moment. This calls for split-second control, but the amazing Karate fighters mastered that little item, too.

Our American had one remaining question for the Japanese expert:

"How would the heavyweight champion boxer of the world make out in the ring against a Karate fighter?"

The answer was:

"It's been tried. Oyama, one of our great Karate fighters, toured the United States some years back. Once, he came up against an American boxer who was also a judo expert. The fight lasted 60 seconds and the boxer was carried out with I don't know how many broken ribs!"

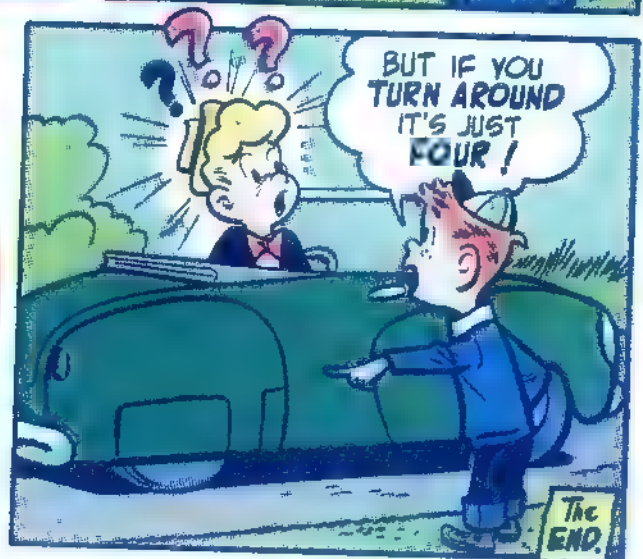
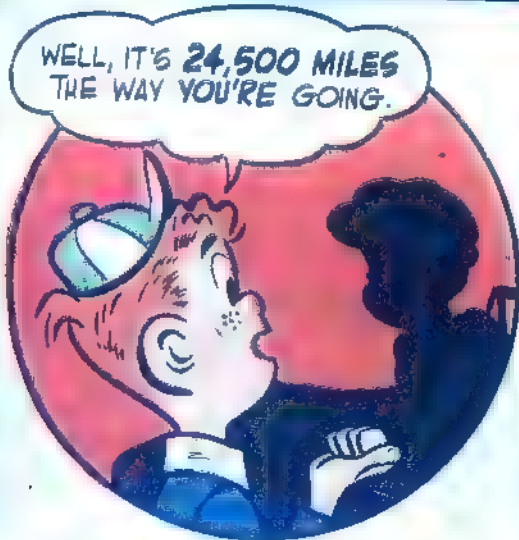
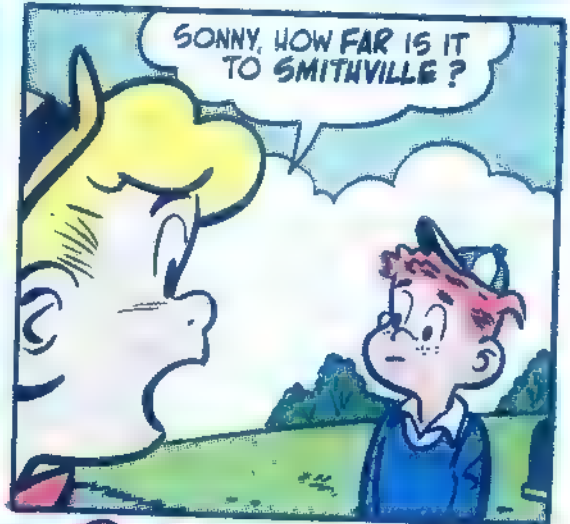
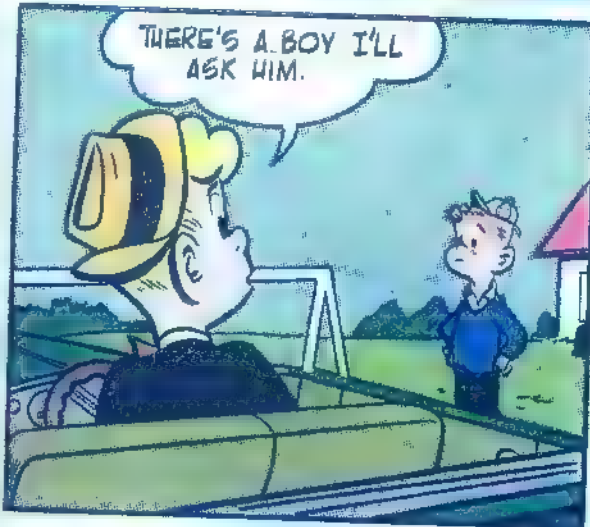
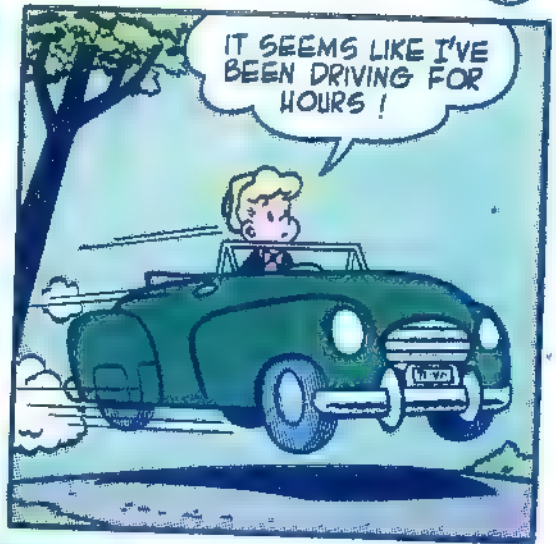
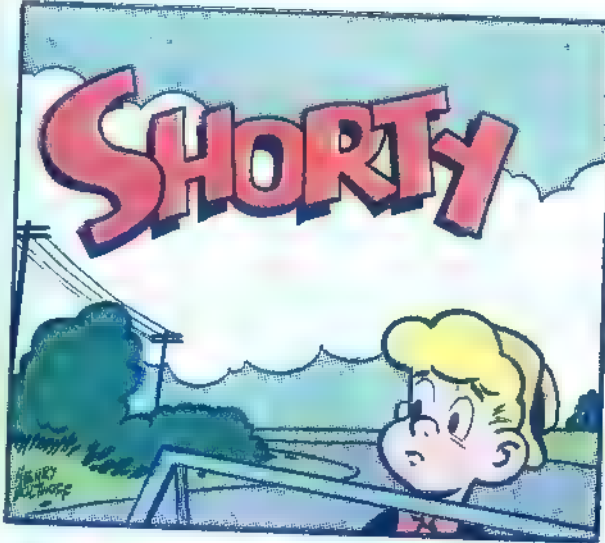
The moral of the story: Don't fight a Karate expert unless you happen to be one yourself!

—Jack E. Miller





# ACTION COMICS



The END.





# VIGILANTE

**H** HE CAME ROARING OUT OF THE WESTERN SAGEBRUSH LIKE AN INFAMOUS GUNMAN OF YORE. IN HIS HATE-FILLED EYES WERE VISIONS OF FAME AND GLORY NEVER HEAPED ON ANY KILLER OF THE PAST. AND THE VALIANT VIGILANTE PUT NERVE AND SINEW TO THE TEST AS HE DESPERATELY STROVE TO CUT SHORT THE GROWING REPUTATION OF...

The **ONE-ARMED BANDIT!**

IT-IT'S INCREDIBLE! OUTSHOOTING OUR LAWMEN WITH BUT **ONE ARM!**

HE MUST BE TEN TIMES TOUGHER THAN BILLY THE KID!

WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM, STUFF! HE'S TRY TO OUTGUN THE MOST VICIOUS BADMEN OF HISTORY!

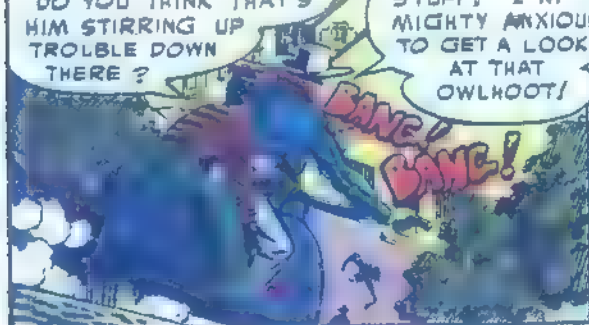
ONE MORNING OUTSIDE RED VALLEY PASS, AS VIGILANTE AND HIS YOUNG SIDEKICK, STUFF, ROAR DOWN A HILLSIDE...

GOSH, VIG-- WE'VE TRAILED THAT ONE-ARMED BANDIT CHARACTER RIGHT TO THIS TOWN! DO YOU THINK THAT'S HIM STIRRING UP TROUBLE DOWN THERE?

LONG AS THE TROUBLE HAS STARTED, I SURE HOPE SO, STUFF! I'M MIGHTY ANXIOUS TO GET A LOOK AT THAT OWLHOOT!

WHILE DOWN BELOW... I DON'T FIGURE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A HANDICAPPED CRITTER, MISTER... BUT YORE MEN HAVE TAKEN OFF, AND YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE! RAISE THAT ARM OR I'LL WING HER!

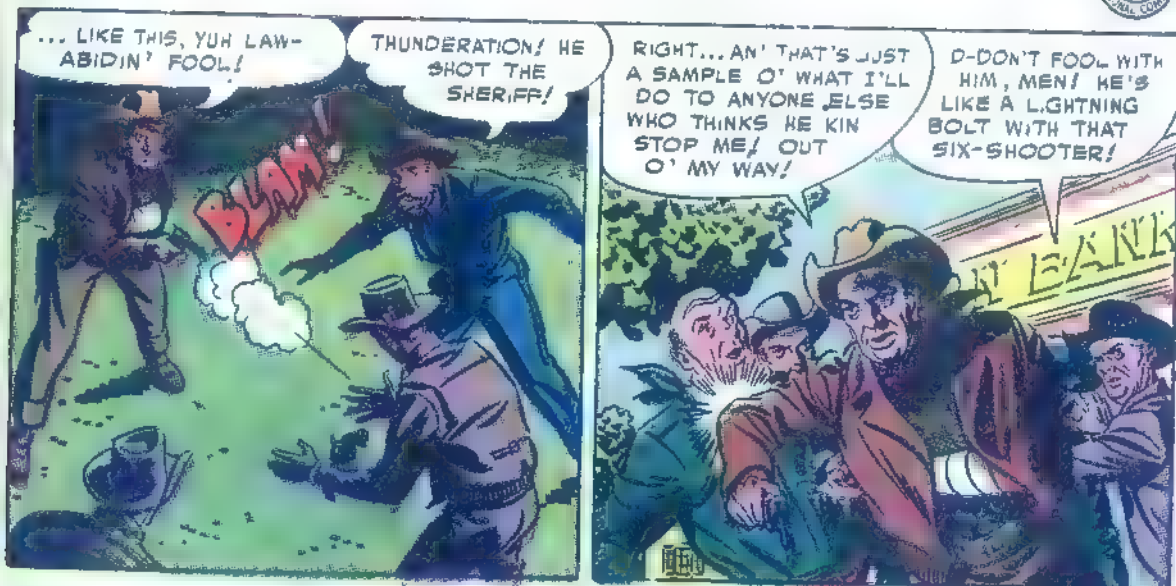
SURE THING, SHERIFF-- I'LL RAISE MY ARM!







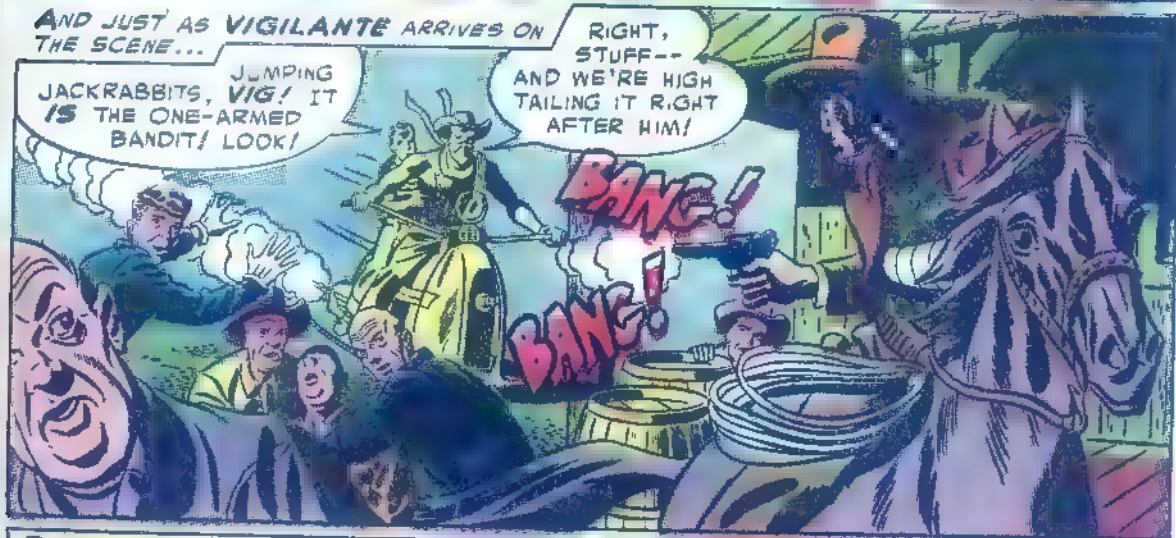
# ACTION COMICS



AND JUST AS VIGILANTE ARRIVES ON THE SCENE...

JUMPING JACKRABBITS, VIG! IT IS THE ONE-ARMED BANDIT! LOOK!

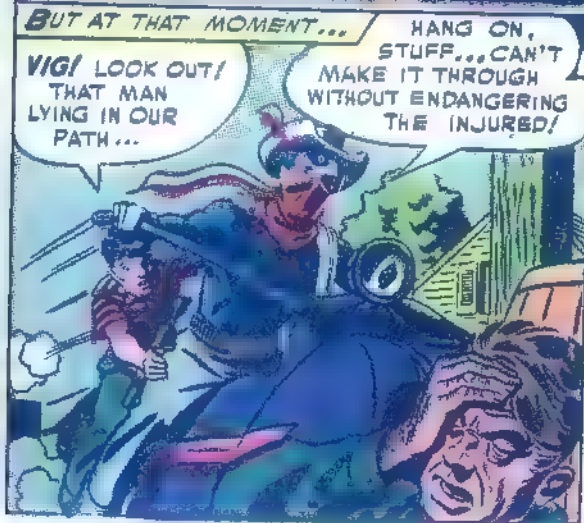
RIGHT, STUFF-- AND WE'RE HIGH TAILING IT RIGHT AFTER HIM!



BUT AT THAT MOMENT...

VIG! LOOK OUT! THAT MAN LYING IN OUR PATH...

HANG ON, STUFF... CAN'T MAKE IT THROUGH WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE INJURED!



WHOA, NELLIE...







# ACTION COMICS



3 WHEW! LOOKS LIKE THE ONE-ARMED BANDIT'S OUT-DONE US THIS TIME, STUFF! LET'S GIVE THE INJURED MEN A HAND!

...WHAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IS HOW A **ONE-ARMED MAN** COULD DO ALL THIS DAMAGE BY HIMSELF!

HE SURE SHOT UP SOME OF YOU TOWNSFOLK! STEADY, OLD-TIMER -- YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

THAT CUSSED CRITTER! I SHOULD O' TURNED A SHOT-GUN ON HIM A YEAR BACK, WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!

YOU MEAN, YOU **KNOW** THE BANDIT? THEN MAYBE YOU CAN EXPLAIN THIS FANTASTIC ONE-ARMED SKILL OF HIS!

I SURE CAN, **VIGILANTE!** WHY, I **WATCHED** THAT VARMINT TEACH HIMSELF THE TRICKS HE'S USIN' NOW!

"YUH SEE, I WAS LIVIN' ALONE IN **BRUSH CANYON** WHEN IT ALL BEGAN. THE BANDIT CAME HIGH-RIDIN' PAST, WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN..."

**OW!**

GREAT OWLS! THAT CRAZY YOUNG CRITTER IS OUT TO KILL HIMSELF!

"I GOT HIM INTO MY HOUSE AN' CALLED A DOCTOR -- BUT HIS ARM WAS IN MIGHTY BAD SHAPE..."

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE HOSPITAL BENT, SON! IT'LL TAKE SOME MIGHTY CLEVER SURGERY TO SAVE THAT ARM... SHE'S MIGHTY MANGLED!

SAM BUCKLEY GOES TO NO HOSPITAL, DOC... I GOT MY REASONS! IF THIS ARM IS DEAD, I'LL JUST DO WITHOUT IT!

"YUP, A RIGHT TOUGH CUSS HE WAS -- BUT I FELT SORRY FOR HIM. SO I LET HIM STAY ON FOR SIX MONTHS, JUST PRACTICIN' WITH HIS ONE GOOD ARM..."

I'M GETTIN' THERE, POP! YUH'LL SEE -- THIS ONE ARM'LL BE BETTER'N ANY TWO IN THE STATE!

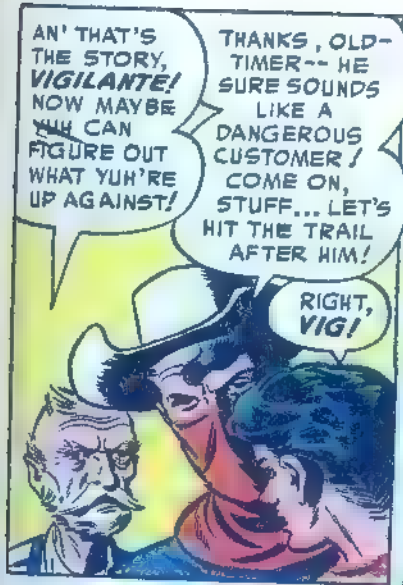
YUH MIGHT O' SAVED THE OTHER IF YUH WEREN'T SO ALL-FIRED STUBBORN, SON!

"HE GOT BETTER AN' BETTER WITH THAT ONE ARM -- TILL FINALLY..."

I'M READY, POP! YESIREE -- THERE'S GOIN' TO BE SOME FIREWORKS POPPIN' AROUND THESE PARTS MIGHTY SOON!

HMPH! FANCY TALK FOR A YOUNG PUP!





AN' THAT'S THE STORY, **VIGILANTE!** NOW MAYBE YUH CAN FIGURE OUT WHAT YUH'RE UP AGAINST!

THANKS, OLD-TIMER-- HE SURE SOUNDS LIKE A DANGEROUS CUSTOMER! COME ON, STUFF... LET'S HIT THE TRAIL AFTER HIM!

RIGHT, **VIG!**

LATER, AS THE TWO FRIENDS COMB THE HILLS...

NO SIGN OF A CAMPFIRE ANYWHERE, STUFF! I'M AFRAID OUR ONE-ARMED FRIEND IS TOO CLEVER TO REVEAL HIMSELF THAT WAY!

SOONER OR LATER, YOU'LL LEARN HIS TRICKS, **VIG!**... YOU ALWAYS DO!

BUT AFTER HOURS OF CRISSCROSSING THE COUNTRYSIDE...

NO TRACKS LEADING TO THE RIVER... I'M AFRAID WE'VE LOST HIM, **VIG!**

HE MOVES FASTER THAN WE FIGURED! IT MAKES SENSE... IN THAT WAY, HE DEALS WITH CITIZENS WHO HAVE NOT SEEN HIS TERRIBLE SKILL AND ARE SYMPATHETIC TO HIS HANDICAP!

... AND WHILE THEY'RE HESITATING TO DRAW AGAINST A ONE-ARMED MAN, HE BEATS THEM TO THE DRAW! STUFF, WE'RE GOING ABOUT THIS THE WRONG WAY! WE'RE GOING TO LEAD HIM TO US!

YET EVEN AS **VIGILANTE** PLANS HIS NEXT MOVE, THE FABULOUS OUTLAW EMBARKS ON HIS NEXT CRIME, IN THE ASSAYING OFFICE AT DEEP RIVER JUNCTION...

SAY, MISTER--GET BACK OUT OF HERE FAST, BEFORE I SHOOT!

OH--ER--DIDN'T MEAN TO BARGE IN ON YUH THIS WAY, MISTER...

POOR CRITTER'S ONLY GOT ONE ARM... HE CAN'T BE VERY DANGEROUS!

... BUT SINCE I'M ALREADY HERE, RECKON I'LL PARTAKE O' YORE HOSPITALITY! COME ON, BOYS... CLEAN OUT EVERY OUNCE O' GOLD IN THE PLACE!

RIGHT, BOSS!

MINUTES LATER, AS THE SMUG GUNMAN RIDES OFF...

HA, HA... WHY, I MAKE BILLY THE KID, JESSE JAMES AN' ALL THOSE OLD-TIMERS LOOK SICK! THEY NEEDED TWO ARMS TO HOT TIE A TOWN, AN' I'M DOIN' IT WITH JUST ONE!

SURE AS SHOOTIN', BOSS, YUH'LL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE GREATEST!







# ACTION COMICS

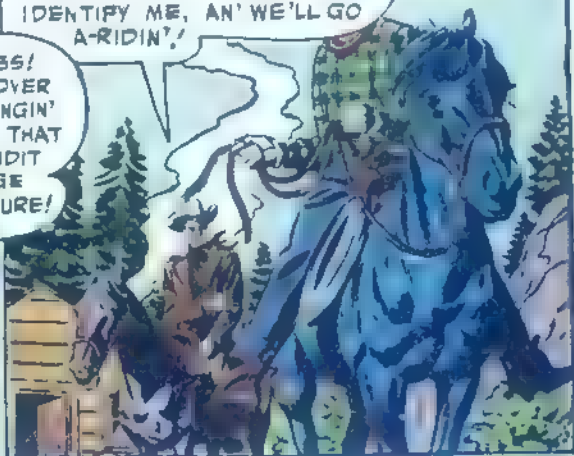


BUT UPON REACHING HIS HIDEOUT, THE OUTLAW'S PRIDE IS QUICKLY SHATTERED BY SOME STARTLING NEWS...

THEN I'LL JUST FIX MY BUM ARM SO'S NOBODY CAN IDENTIFY ME, AN' WE'LL GO A-RIDIN'!

YUH LYIN' RAT! WHAT DO YUH MEAN, SOMEBODY'S CALLIN' ME A COWARD IN PUBLIC? FOLKS **RESPECT** MY GUNPLAY!

IT'S THE TRUTH, BOSS! SOME CHARACTER OVER IN WAGONVILLE IS SINGIN' OUT TO EVERYBODY THAT THE ONE-ARMED BANDIT JUST TAKES ADVANTAGE O' PEOPLE'S GOOD NATURE!



AWHILE LATER, AS **VIGILANTE**, IN HIS REAL-LIFE ROLE OF GREG SANDERS, THE **PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR**, ENTERTAINS THE TOWNSFOLK OF WAGONVILLE...

AND NOW, ONCE AGAIN WE PRESENT THE **PRAIRIE TROUBADOUR!**

PSST...THAT'S THE ONE, BOSS! LISTEN...

HOORAY!

STUCKDOUGH BENEFIT

CLAP-CLAP!



OH, THE ONE-ARMED BANDIT IS MIGHTY SLY... BUT HE'LL GET A LESSON AFORE HE DIES... FOR **VIGILANTE** IS CLEVER TOO... AND HE'S BOUND TO SHOOT THAT CRITTER THRU AND THRU...

IS THAT SO?



ABRUPTLY, HOT LEADS SING THROUGH THE AIR AS THE SAVAGE GUNMAN GOES WILD...

AN' THAT RING-TAILED COWARD JUST GAINED HIS FAME... CAUSE GOOD FOLK ARE SLOW TO DRAB! ON ONE WHO'S LAME...

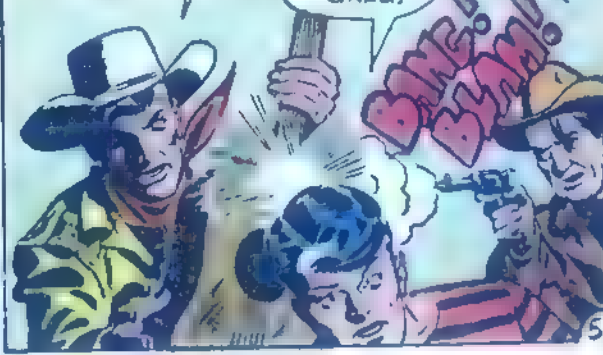
YUH'RE A LOWDOWN, SNIVELIN' LIAR!



THAT'S OUR MAN, STUFF! OUTSIDE -- FAST... AND WATCH OUT FOR THOSE BULLETS!

I'LL GUN YUH DOWN IN YORE TRACKS!

R-RIGHT, GREG!



BANG! BANG!

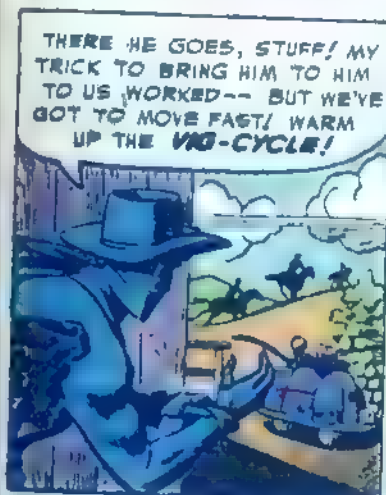




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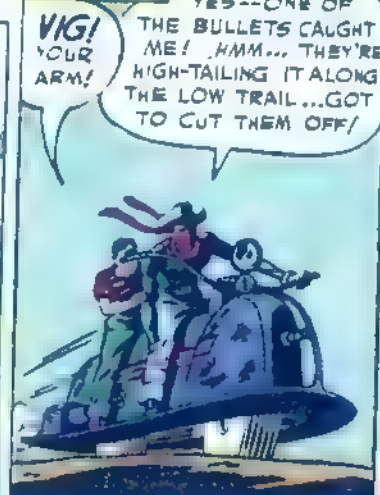


ONCE OUT OF VIEW, GREG  
HASTILY DONS THE FIGHTING  
TOGS OF **VIGILANTE**...



THERE HE GOES, STUFF! MY  
TRICK TO BRING HIM TO HIM  
TO US WORKED-- BUT WE'VE  
GOT TO MOVE FAST! WARM  
UP THE **VIG-CYCLE!**

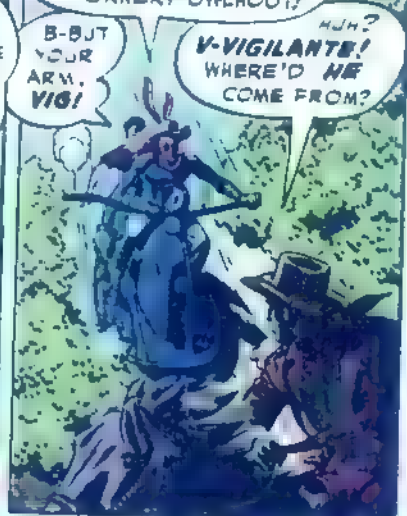
A MOMENT LATER, AS  
THEY HIT THE OUTLAW'S  
TRAIL...



**VIG!**  
YOUR  
ARM!

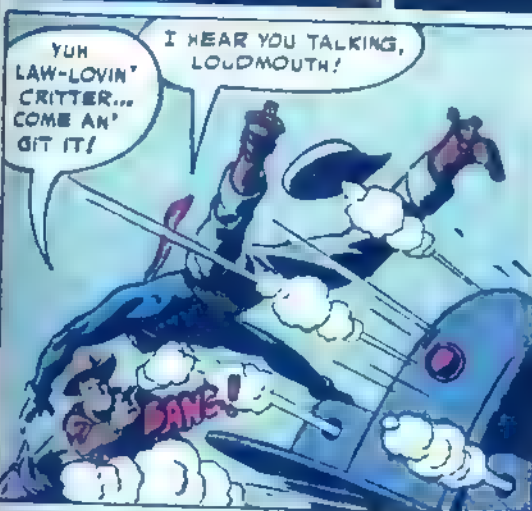
YES--ONE OF  
THE BULLETS CAUGHT  
ME!...HMM... THEY'RE  
HIGH-TAILING IT ALONG  
THE LOW TRAIL...GOT  
TO CUT THEM OFF!

TAKE OVER, STUFF... I'M  
GOING TO TACKLE THAT  
ORNERY OWLHOOT!



B-BUT  
YOUR  
ARM...  
**VIG!**

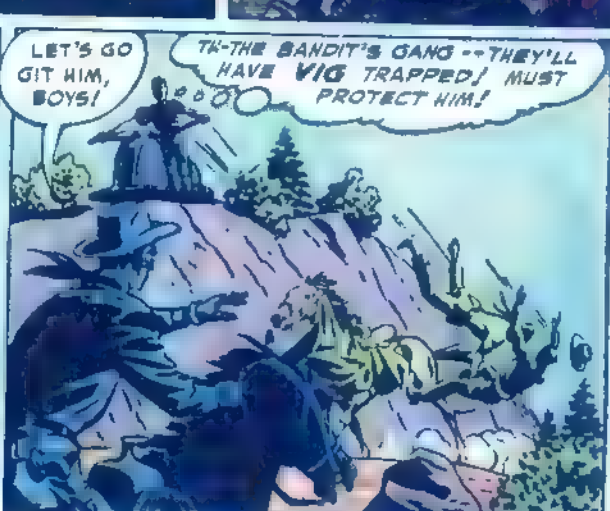
HUH?  
**V-VIGILANTE!**  
WHERE'D HE  
COME FROM?



YUH  
LAW-LOVIN'  
CRITTER...  
COME AN'  
GIT IT!

I HEAR YOU TALKING,  
LOUDMOUTH!

**BANG!**



LET'S GO  
GIT HIM,  
BOYS!

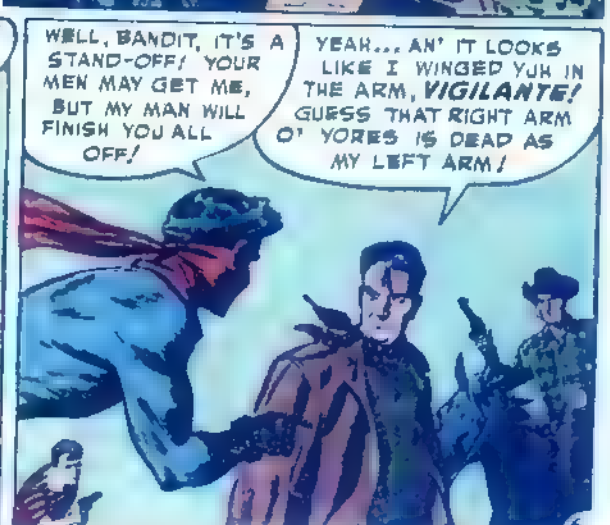
TH-THE BANDIT'S GANG--THEY'LL  
HAVE **VIG** TRAPPED! MUST  
PROTECT HIM!



HOLD IT! IF YOU SHOOT  
**VIGILANTE** I'LL DROP  
YOU IN YOUR TRACKS!

WHAT--? HE'S GOT  
THE DROP ON US!  
D-DON'T SHOOT!

ATTABOY,  
STUFF!



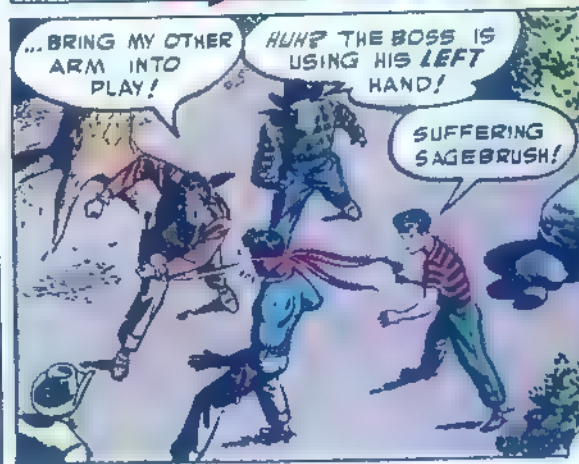
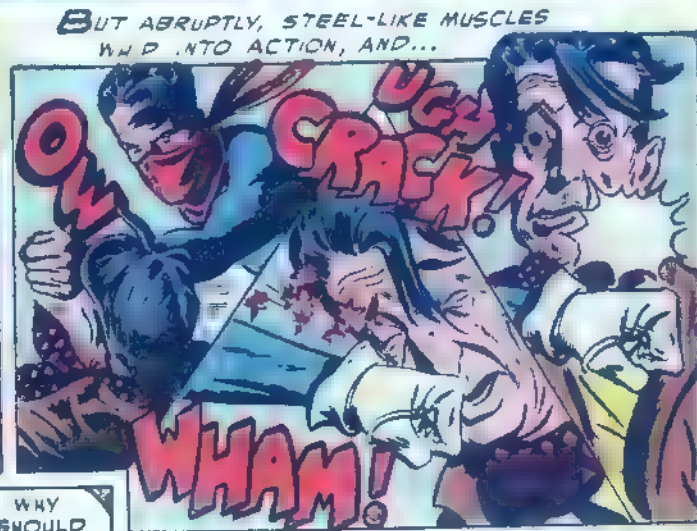
WELL, BANDIT, IT'S A  
STAND-OFF! YOUR  
MEN MAY GET ME,  
BUT MY MAN WILL  
FINISH YOU ALL  
OFF!

YEAH... AN' IT LOOKS  
LIKE I WINGED YUH IN  
THE ARM, **VIGILANTE!**  
GUESS THAT RIGHT ARM  
O' YORES IS DEAD AS  
MY LEFT ARM!





# ACTION COMICS







DESPERATELY, VIGILANTE PARRYS OFF THE RAIN OF TWO-FISTED BLOWS...



BUT SUDDENLY, WITH A TREMENDOUS SHOVE...



THUS, AWHILE LATER, AT THE LOCAL JAIL...



**SUPERMAN** ON **TELEVISION!** is **SUPER-TV**

SEE YOUR NEWSPAPER FOR TIME AND CHANNEL!



# DO YOU NEED MONEY?



**FAVORITE  
ALL OCCASION ASSORTMENT**  
Exquisite designs with rich,  
colorful decorations



**COMICS IN ACTION  
HUMOROUS EVERYDAY ASSORTMENT**  
Fascinating cards with original  
3-dimensional pop-out features  
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**DELUXE  
GIFT WRAPPING  
ENSEMBLE**  
FOR ALL OCCASIONS  
20 large, multi-color  
sheets plus matching  
seals and gift tags



**ROSE GIFT AND  
THANK YOU FOLDERS**  
For these special occasions



**THE NEW SWEET AND LOVELY  
ALL OCCASION ASSORTMENT**  
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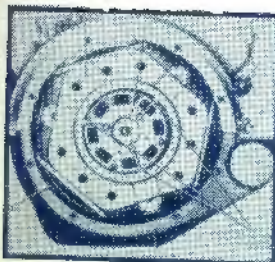
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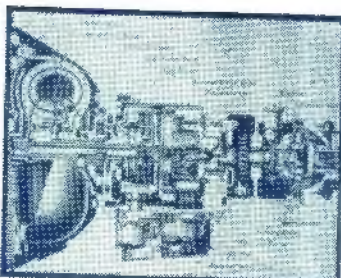
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